

## **Faith at Home Corner** - *For the week of September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

*by Rev. Steve Andrews Jr.*

**Weekly Tip for Worshipping with Your Children:** *Worshipping with children is not easy, but it is necessary and worthwhile! Even from the time of birth, children learn the most by observing what their parents do. We are here to help. This week's tip is for: **Parents with Younger Children!***

**How can we prepare for church so that we can be on time?** Getting out of the house in the morning is hard enough, but adding kids makes it a thousand times more difficult. Do the little things beforehand. Pick out your child's clothes and set them out the night before. Go to bed a little earlier on Saturday night. Have a designated breakfast person, the parent that gets up the earliest, who can get breakfast ready for the family. Stick to your guns and get those kids out of bed at the time you told them you would.

**Outreach Made Simply Practical!** *Live your normal, everyday lives with Gospel intentionality!*

**Talk to Your Co-workers** - How hard is that? Take your breaks with intentionality. Go out with your team or task force after work. Show interest in your co-workers. Pick four and pray for them.

**Weekly Worship Helps for the Home:** *How do we go about doing devotions together as a family? How do we teach our children about their Lord and Savior? Here are some simple ways to do just that, to make Christ the center of your family and to be in His Word daily. This guide is designed to help your family read through the Scriptures together in three years and to cover the Small Catechism in just one year!*

*You can certainly do this however you would like. In my home, we read a chapter of the Bible together after dinner each night, followed by reciting the three chief parts of the Catechism (Ten Commandments, Apostle's Creed, and the Lord's Prayer) and then we sing a hymn. There are any number of ways to talk about God in your home!*

-Pray together! This week's **Prayer List:** <http://www.gracefaithlove.org/newsletter>

-Daily Scripture Readings: Let's read Ezekiel 40-46! Feel free to ask your pastor any questions that come up!

-Memory verse: Genesis 2:24 – "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."

-Hymn: *Our Father, By Whose Name* LSB 863, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 12

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on The Table of Duties: To Husbands, To Wives, on pg. 35. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – Who is Jesus?, pg. 351-353.

-Devotions resources: grab a copy of *Portals of Prayer* at church or subscribe to daily email devotions from [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org), [www.lutheranchurchcharities.org](http://www.lutheranchurchcharities.org), or <https://media.higherthings.org/reflections/>.

Feel free to share with family and friends, neighbors and coworkers, anyone you'd like!

# God Time at Home

*Select questions and adapt for your family.*

**FOR STARTERS:** Have everyone imagine that Jesus is sitting right there next to you in this very room. Imagine saying to Him, "I'll do whatever You want me to do this week, just tell me what it is." Ask each person to share what he thinks Jesus would say to him.

**READ THE BIBLE:** Read the events found in 2 Samuel chapters 1-5 from a story Bible. In these events, David mourns Saul's death and ascends to the throne.

**KEY VERSES:** Deuteronomy 10:12-13, "*And now, Israel, what does Yahweh your God require of you, but to fear Yahweh your God, to walk in all His ways, to love Him, to serve Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your soul. <sup>13</sup>and to keep the commandments and statutes of Yahweh, which I am commanding you today for your good?*"

**TALK ABOUT IT:** What was David's response to Saul's death? (*He was very sad.*) Did he reward or punish the man who claimed to have killed Saul? (*Punish.*) David decided to go to Hebron. Who told him to go there? (*2 Samuel 2:1. God.*) David fought the Philistines. Who did he ask for advice on whether or not he should go into battle against them? (*2 Samuel 5:18,19. God.*) When did David know it was time to attack? (*2 Samuel 5:24. When he heard the sound of God's army of angels in the tops of the trees going to fight for them.*)

How did successful leaders like David make their choices? Do you think God could make you a successful leader like David if you made your choices the same way? David's key was saying to God, "Whatever you want, Lord." Something David did really well helped him always remember to do this. What was this thing? (*Worship.*)

Jesus was the perfect King. King David was not perfect. Jesus was the only man on earth who truly did "whatever God wanted." Though He was perfect, Jesus died on the cross for our sins to take our punishment upon Himself. Through faith in Jesus, we know we have forgiveness. Jesus then dwells in our hearts and He gives us the power to say to God, "*Whatever you want, Lord!*"

**PRAYER:** Thank God for Jesus and the power of His forgiveness and that He would strengthen us so that we can do what He wants us to do.

## Family Time Option

*One day this week, try...*

Make a sign that reads, "Whatever you want, Lord!" and put it on your refrigerator. Use it as a reminder to include this phrase in every table prayer or nighttime prayer or any prayer spoken out loud. See if you can say this in every prayer for a week.