

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of November 21st, 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 Young Children!***

At what age should I expect a child to participate in worship? Their ability to participate will increase with age. At first it might be just folding hands, then standing and sitting, making the sign of the cross. With a little work at home during the week, and in the time before the service, they can learn parts of the liturgy or hymn refrains as soon as they are talking. After they learn to read they can begin to follow along with the hymns and the liturgy and join in signing. By 4th or 5th grade most children can and should be fully participating. But even the littlest ones are learning!

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

Workplace Ideas – Serving: Offer to cover for a co-worker who needs off for something.

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 Leviticus 1-7! Feel free to ask your pastor any questions you have!

-Memory verse: Luke 21:34 – "But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that Day come upon you suddenly like a trap."

-Hymn: *Savior of the Nations, Come* LSB 332, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 25

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on The 1st and 2nd Commandments, on pg. 13. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – Introduction to the Explanation, pg. 43-51.

-Devotions resources: grab a copy of *Portals of Prayer* at church or subscribe to daily email devotions from www.lhm.org, 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 a family scavenger hunt around the house. Look for warning devices or labels. Use your imagination to come up with prizes for different categories of warnings: i.e., smallest label, loudest noise, etc. Then ask, "What kind of warnings do you think God gives us?"

READ THE BIBLE: 1 Kings 12:25-14:20; 15:25-30

KEY VERSE: Psalm 81:8-10, *"⁸Hear, O My people, while I admonish you! O Israel, if you would but listen to Me! ⁹There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god. ¹⁰I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."*

TALK ABOUT IT: What kind of idols did Jeroboam make? (1 Kings 12:28. *Two golden calves.*) What event in Israel's history does the golden calf remind you of? (Exodus 32. *The children of Israel making and worshipping a golden calf in the desert after leaving Egypt.*) What lie did Jeroboam tell the people about the golden calves? (1 Kings 12:28. *"Here are your gods who brought you out of Egypt."*)

Jeroboam's wife went to the prophet, Ahijah, because her son was sick. Did Ahijah recognize her? What was the warning Ahijah told Jeroboam's wife to pass on to Jeroboam? (1 Kings 14:9-10a – *"But you have done evil above all who were before you and have gone and made for yourself other gods and metal images, provoking Me to anger, and have cast Me behind your back, ¹⁰therefore behold, I will bring harm upon the house of Jeroboam and will cut off from Jeroboam every male..."*) What was God's judgment on Jeroboam? (His son died and later he died and the rest of his family died.) Why do you think Jeroboam did not listen and obey God's warnings? What do you think God would have done if Jeroboam had repented and gone back to worshipping the only true God?

According to Psalm 81:8, what does God want for His people? (He wants us to follow Him only. He is the true and living God and He will provide for us, protect us, and save us. He wants to do what is best for us.) What warning does God want you to heed?

PRAYER: Pray for one another and the warning God has for each of us. Give thanks for Jesus, our Savior, who gives us His forgiveness and that the Holy Spirit would help us to listen to and follow God.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

Make an agreement with one another (perhaps by signing a family contract) that if any member of the family sees another member doing something that God warns us not to do, you would tell that person about God's warning. Don't do it pridefully, but because you love them and care about them.