

Faith at Home Corner - *For the week of July 24th, 2022*

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 Home!***

2 minute warning: When a parent's instructions are going to interrupt or end an activity, giving the child a 2 minute warning can relieve the frustrations of having to leave or end an activity without warning.

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

Send some flowers: In our jobs, our hobbies, and places we go, we get to know people and some of these people will share with us their hurts and their problems. Be a caring person who listens! Next time you listen to someone take an extra step! Send them some flowers and on the card write a Bible passage that brings hope and comfort to the specific situation they are going through!

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 2 Chronicles 1-7! Feel free to ask your pastor any questions you have! To learn more about these chapters: <https://anchor.fm/rev-steve-andrews-jr>

-Memory verse: Colossians 3:4 (Challenge! 3:1-4) – "When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."

-Hymn: *Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings* LSB 782, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 100

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?, on pg. 29. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Power of Baptism, pg. 297-301.

-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 family members gather around for a family dessert. While enjoying dessert, ask: “Is our family usually in better moods after we eat or before we eat? Why?” Discuss. “How about when we are tired? Do any of us get crankier when we’re tired?” Discuss. “Elijah had a great victory, but after that, was very exhausted. He was tired and hungry. He felt very sorry for himself, but God sent an angel to help him. After rest, food and encouragement, he was ready to continue the Lord’s work.” (A big part of this is also that God just didn’t seem to be working the way Elijah thought He should be...the king and queen didn’t repent and now were trying to kill him!)

READ THE BIBLE: 1 Kings 19:1-18

KEY VERSE: Psalms 42:5, “*Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation.*”

TALK ABOUT IT: Why was Elijah so discouraged that he wanted to die? (*1 Kings 19:1-4. Queen Jezebel was so angry that God had destroyed her prophets of Baal that she wanted to kill Elijah. He fled into the wilderness alone.*) How did God provide for Elijah when he was discouraged and sleeping under the broom plant? (*1 Kings 19:5-7. God sent an angel to minister to Elijah. The angel provided food and water and watched over him while he slept.*) Where did Elijah go to meet with God after he had been strengthened? (*1 Kings 19:8-9. He went into a cave on Mt. Horeb, also known as Mt. Sinai.*) What did God ask Elijah? (*1 Kings 19:9. What are you doing here?*) How did Elijah answer? How was he having a “poor me party?” (*1 Kings 19:10. He told God that the Israelites had abandoned God’s promises, torn down God’s altars and killed God’s prophets. Elijah was the only one left and they were trying to kill him.*) What were the three things God sent to Elijah but he was not in? (*1 Kings 19:11-12. God was not in the fierce wind, the earthquake, or the fire.*) What was God in that Elijah heard? (*1 Kings 19:12-13. A soft, calm voice.*) How would you have felt in his situation? What lies did Elijah believe? (*That he was the only one left who loved God and that God was not with him*) Why do you think God showed Elijah the fierce wind, the earthquake and the fire, but spoke to Elijah in a quiet whisper? (*To show Elijah that God was powerful and could do many miracles, but that His regular way of working is not through these things, but through His Word, and He was most definitely still working.*) How did God give Elijah encouragement? (*1 Kings 19:15-18. He sent him back to work, calling him to share the Word. He told Elijah to anoint Elisha as a prophet to help him and told him there were 7,000 people in Israel who still obeyed God.*)

PRAYER: Thank God that He brings us encouragement in His Word. Pray for the Holy Spirit to help each child know the truth and not believe the lies the devil may tell him/her.

Family Time Option

One day this week, try...

FAMILY TIME OPTIONS: Wrap a candy bar or some other treat in giftwrap and a bow. Let this be a “poor me” pity party gift. Place it on the refrigerator. Anytime anyone is having their own “poor me” party and thinking only of the negative, another family member can bring this “gift” to them to gently remind them that they have many more good things to remember than bad – the best of which is God’s love for them in Christ Jesus.