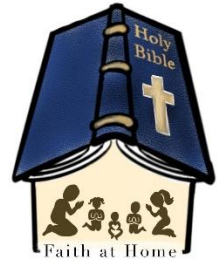


# FAITH AT HOME CORNER

For the Week of January 20, 2024



**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 of Young Children!*

**Should I do any positive reinforcement?** Let your children know that you noticed how well they participated in church this morning. Do not only emphasize the negative things they do. Thank them for their good behavior and participation immediately after the service.

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

**Volunteer with Non-Profits** - Find a non-profit in your part of the city and take a Saturday a month to serve your city. Bring your neighbors, your friends, or your small group. Spend time with your church serving your city once a month. You can do it!

**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 Mark 8-14 together! Feel free to ask your pastor any questions you have! To learn more about these chapters: <https://sandhandrews.wordpress.com/the-daily-bite/>

-Memory verse: 1 Corinthians 8:6 – "yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist."

-Hymn: *Amazing Grace*

LSB 744, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 137

-Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on the Apostles' Creed, Third Article, pg. 17-18. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Seventh Commandment, pg. 105-109.

-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:** To make a simple trap, prop up a shoebox on one edge with a pencil and string tied to it. When the pencil is pulled, the box falls on whatever was trying to get the bait. In this activity, place a piece of candy in the trap as bait and challenge people to be fast enough to grab the candy without having the box land on one's hand.

Talk about how temptation works like this. We are tempted to go for the bait but when we do, Satan often catches us. Let everyone share some common temptations that they face. Discuss how to avoid getting caught in the trespasses of sin.

**READ THE BIBLE:** Matthew 4:1-11, Jesus is tempted in the desert.

**KEY VERSE:** Hebrews 4:12: *"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."*

**TALK ABOUT IT:** What three ways did the devil tempt Jesus and how did Jesus respond? (*hunger, trust, power; Jesus always responded with God's Word!*) Do you think it was easier for Jesus to resist temptation than it is for you? (Help kids understand that Jesus' temptations would have been just as great as our temptations are, because Jesus was human just like us.)

Jesus always answered Satan with God's Word. How do you think Jesus learned that much Scripture? Did He have time to look up a verse when the devil was tempting Him? (*No, He had studied and memorized God's Word just like we are encouraged to do.*) What can you learn from Jesus to do when you are tempted to sin? (*Use God's Word to fight Satan.*)

**PRAYER:** Thank God for the weapons He gives us against Satan. Pray to hide God's Word in your hearts to be ready at all times, but especially in times of temptation.

## Family Time Option

*One day this week, try...*

Sit down as a family and plan a weekend special event. It might be something as simple as watching a weekend movie together or as big as taking a weekend vacation. Next, discuss what kind of obstacles (like complaining or fighting) may get in the way of this being a successful event. As you talk about those obstacles, think about ways to avoid them.

How is this like temptation? Do we need to talk about our common temptations so we won't let those obstacles get in the way of our reaching the goal? Help your children to develop a plan of action (or a memorized Scripture verse) when he faces those common temptations.

