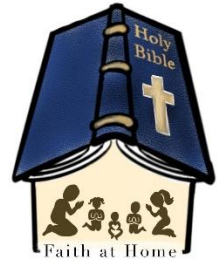


# FAITH AT HOME CORNER

For the Week of January 27, 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: Pastors!*

**Use the liturgy!** Children learn by repetition, because “repetition is the mother of learning.” Children become more accustomed to being “in church” when they recognize and learn to repeat the same things from Sunday to Sunday.

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

**Share Your Passion** - What do you enjoy? Find a local group that shares your passion. Be on mission in your community and have fun at the same time!

**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 15-16 and Numbers 1-5 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 9:24-25 – “<sup>24</sup> Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. <sup>25</sup> Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.”

-Hymn: *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*                      LSB 398, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 58

-Small Catechism (2017): Review together the section on the Ten Commandments, pg. 13-14. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Eighth Commandment, pg. 110-114.

-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:** Give every member of your family a Tootsie Roll or taffy candy and let him roll it out in the shape of a fishhook. (Licorice or even biscuit dough could be used.) As they make their fishhooks, have each person tell about a time they were reminded of God's love for them. The fishhook can remind them of how God has "hooked" them with His love. It also is in the shape of a "J," which stands for Jesus (that's the story of the candy cane too!).

**READ THE BIBLE:** Matthew 4:17-25, Jesus calls His first disciples.

**KEY VERSE:** Matthew 4:19: *"And He said to them, 'Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.'"*

**TALK ABOUT IT:** What were the names of the four disciples Jesus chose? *(Peter, Andrew, James, and John.)* How soon did they leave to follow Jesus? *(Immediately.)* Why do you think they left immediately to follow Jesus? *(We don't actually know! God brought them to faith, to trust in Jesus and the work He was going to give them to do in making disciples of all the nations.)* What was the connection between the disciples' job and what Jesus was asking them to do? *(They were fishermen and Jesus was asking them to catch people.)* What was the bait Jesus used to get people to follow Him? *(He talked about the good news of His kingdom, good news of forgiveness and life. He also cured every disease and sickness among the people.)*

Did you know that Jesus is also calling you to catch people for Him? Why do you think it is so important that we do it immediately? *(All people need to know Jesus' love for them and you may be the only person to tell them.)*

**PRAYER:** Pray for ideas to do this week to share Jesus' love and be fishers of men.

## Family Time Option

*One day this week, try...*

Make a fishbowl of names that members of your family are praying for and encouraging spiritually. You could use a real fishbowl or another bowl. Think of ways you could pray for these people, spiritually encourage them, or witness to them.

You might have an encouragement card party where you draw names and write an encouraging card or email. Dessert or snack ideas to go along with this activity are goldfish crackers, Swedish fish, gummy worms, or blue gelatin in a clear bowl (possibly with the candies poked in!).