## FAITH AT HOME CORNER

For the Week of February 25, 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!** 

**Encourage parents to sit up front.** It's easier for the children to see. It's easier for them to pay attention. It's easier for them to follow along. And, one that often surprises families, children behave better (because of all of these other things!).

**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**: <a href="http://www.gracefaithlove.org/newsletter">http://www.gracefaithlove.org/newsletter</a>
- -Daily Scripture Readings: Let's read Numbers 27-33 together! Feel free to ask your pastor any questions you have! To learn more about these chapters: <a href="https://sandhandrews.wordpress.com/the-daily-bite/">https://sandhandrews.wordpress.com/the-daily-bite/</a>
- -Memory verse: Exodus 20 The Ten Commandments
- -Hymn: May God Bestow on Us His Grace LSB 823/824, also in Lutheran Service Builder
- -Psalm: 109
- -Small Catechism (2017): Read together the section on the Lord's Prayer, Third Petition, pg. 20-21. Digging Deeper with the Explanation The Apostles' Creed, First Article, Part 1, pg. 133-145.
- -Devotions resources: grab a copy of *Portals of Prayer* at church or subscribe to daily email devotions from <a href="https://media.higherthings.org/reflections/">www.lutheranchurchcharities.org</a>, or <a href="https://media.higherthings.org/reflections/">https://media.higherthings.org/reflections/</a>.

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:** Prepare and hide a special treat or snack. Make one clue that leads to a second clue that leads to a third clue and finally leads to the treat. Put the clues in envelopes and address each envelope with a child's name that should open the envelope and share the message. As you enjoy your snack discuss, "What has been an important message that you have been entrusted to deliver?"

**READ THE BIBLE:** Read the Bible event from Matthew 9:37-10:28 where Jesus sends out His 12 disciples.

**KEY VERSE:** 2 Corinthians 5:20a: "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us."

TALK ABOUT IT: Jesus felt sorry for the crowds of people who were sick and hurting. He called His 12 disciples to help Him minister to these people. Jesus gave them the authority or power to do what? (Matthew 10:1. To force evil spirits out of people and to cure disease and sickness.) What was the message the disciples were to spread when they went out? (Matthew 10:7. The kingdom of heaven is near. That means Jesus is our king who cares for us all!) What are some powerful things that Jesus gave them the authority to do? (Matthew 10:8. Cure the sick, bring the dead back to life, cleanse those with skin diseases, force demons out of people.) Will everyone be happy to receive the followers who come in Jesus' name? (Matthew 10:22-23. Some will hate them and persecute them.) Why shouldn't Jesus' followers be afraid of people who can kill the body? (Matthew 10:28,30,31. Because they can't kill the soul. Jesus tells them the Father will take care of them.)

How are we like the disciples? Jesus gives us His authority to do what kinds of things in His name? (we follow Jesus, love others, sharing His good news with them; we also can speak His forgiveness to others)

**PRAYER:** Close with prayer, giving thanks for opportunities to represent the King and the courage to do so.

## **Family Time Option**

One day this week, try...

God calls your family to share your faith with others. Can you think of three people? How do you think you should share your faith? Will it be through acts of friendship and service, then by words? Will it mean inviting them to church or a special event for the kids? Discuss and make a plan.