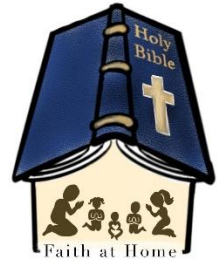


# FAITH AT HOME CORNER

For the Week of March 31, 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: **Everyone!***

**COLOR CHANGE:** Notice that the different colors of the altar and the stoles (the sash that the pastors wear over their albs/robes) changed! The colors help us mark the time of the church year. **White** is the color of purity and completeness and is used primarily during the **Sundays of the Easter season** to remind us that "though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow." Christ's triumph from the grave on Resurrection day is the cause for our rejoicing. His purity before His Father becomes our purity. White reinforces that message of joy. It is also used for the same message for festive Sundays: Christmas and its twelve days; Epiphany (Jan. 6) and the first Sunday following it, observed as the Baptism of Our Lord; the Last Sunday after the Epiphany, also known as Transfiguration Sunday; Holy Trinity Sunday; All-Saints' Day; and seventeen minor festivals and occasions listed on the church year calendar in Lutheran Service Book.

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

**What is Easter, anyway?** Not surprisingly, our culture doesn't understand the holiday of Easter. They see Christians celebrating, but they also see eggs, bunnies, and over-priced candy by the truckload. In the early Church, they used "Christ is risen!" as a greeting. Maybe this won't work with your employer, but it could be a good introduction in conversations with your family, friends, and neighbors. Look for other ways, too, to turn the conversation from "Easter" to what Easter is actually about. For example, instead of asking, "How was your weekend?" you could say, "Good morning! Did you celebrate the resurrection this weekend?"

**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 Acts 15-21 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 John 1:8-9 – "8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

-Hymn: *O Sons and Daughters of the King* LSB 470/471, also in [Lutheran Service Builder](#)

-Psalm: 105

-Small Catechism (2017): Review together the section on the Apostles' Creed, First Article, pg. 16. Digging Deeper with the Explanation – The Apostles' Creed, Second Article, Part 3, pg. 188-194.

-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:** Think of someone you know who has died. Now imagine there is a knock on the front door and when you answer it, it is that person. What would you do? What would you say? How would you feel? Think about how exciting it was for the disciples and others to see Jesus alive! His resurrection is proof that He is God's Son and was victorious over the power of sin and death. Our sins are forgiven!

**READ THE BIBLE:** 1 Corinthians 15:3-5

**KEY VERSE:** 1 Corinthians 15:3-4: *"For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures."*

**TALK ABOUT IT:** Talk about what the resurrection of Jesus means to each individual. Ask such questions as:

What does "resurrection" mean?

Why do we celebrate Jesus' resurrection? Why is it important?

What happens if you don't know Jesus as your Savior?

**PRAYER:** Thank and praise God for His glorious plan of salvation for us. Thank Him for His sacrificial love in sending Jesus to be our risen Redeemer.

## Family Time Option

*One day this week, try...*

In the early Christian church, worshipers greeted one another by one person saying, "He/Christ is risen!" The other person would respond with, "He is risen indeed!" Practice greeting each other in this manner.