



December 18-23, 2023

Lead your heart and your household into next Sunday using these ideas and resources in one or all six areas as you worship at home together to fulfill God's discipleship calling. Pick and choose what is most suitable for your home, using what will work best with the ages, stages, personalities, and interests you have present.

May your family be blessed by the time spent together, worshipping our Mighty God!

Blessings,

Kimber Walsh, Director of Family Life Ministry

*You can also find this resource by subscribing online at redeemerjackson.org/lead-in-subscription

BIBLE READING

Read the Bible texts using different translations or age-appropriate children's Bibles, act it out, use puppets or visual aids.

- Isaiah 7:10-14
- Psalm 110:1-4
- 1 John 4:7-16
- Matthew 1:18-25

Memorize

"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him." 1 John 4:9

SINGING

- ["Silent Night" \(Lutheran Service Book 363\)](#)
- ["O Come O Come Emmanuel" \(LSB 357\)](#)
- ["O Little Town of Bethlehem" \(LSB 361\)](#)
- ["Joy to the World" \(LSB 387\)](#)

ACTIVITIES

1. **Unexpected**-Fill a cookie tin with fruits and vegetables before gathering the household. Talk about what is expected when you see a cookie tin. Talk about what is expected when you hear about a king coming. Open the tin and discuss. Talk about how Jesus' arrival was different than what was expected.
2. **God is Love**-Create a large heart together with the words "God is love." Decorate it with cut up Christmas cards, drawings, or other supplies. Talk about what it means that God is love.
3. **Christmas Hymns**-Each person choose their favorite Christmas hymn and talk about why you like it. If you have time, sing them. How can hymns help us reflect on God's Word?

CATECHISM

Recitation: The Close of the Commandments & Meaning
[*Luther's Small Catechism*, Blue p. 91, Maroon p. 93, Black-p. 120]

Q & A: Assign one person to be the catechizer to ask questions and allow others to answer. (Guide them/provide unknown answers.)

- *Luther's Small Catechism*, 2008 Questions 69-77, 84 (Blue p. 91-94, 98, Maroon p. 93-96, 100)
- *Luther's Small Catechism*, 2017 Questions 93-102 (p. 120-126)

Need a catechism? Let us know!

DISCUSSION

1. Share highs and lows of the day.
2. How have you seen God at work lately?
3. What does the Scripture reading teach about God?
4. What does it teach about people?
5. What is the key theme of the Scripture reading?
6. What do you learn about the key theme? How can you apply it to your daily walk with the Lord? (Yourself, your relationship with God or your relationships with others?)
7. Any cautions to heed? Any promises to anticipate?

PRAYER

- **Adoration (Wow, God!):** Proclaim at least three things that amaze you about God today.
- **Confession (Sorry, God!):** Confess, repent, and ask for forgiveness.
- **Thanksgiving (Thanks, God!):** Thank God for blessings, lessons, gifts, etc.
- **Supplication (Please, God!):** Ask God to intervene where you know of needs.

God has called us to lead our families in discipleship at home...

- to preach and teach the Bible to our family (Eph. 6:4)
- to be a discipleship center (Gen. 18:19)
- to impress the hearts of the next generation with a love for God (Deut. 6:5-7)
- to pass on faith (Ps. 78:1-8, Deut. 32:44-47; Eph. 6:4)
- to teach spiritual lessons to our children (Prov. 1:8, Prov. 7:1, Prov. 23:23-26)

and this resource is designed to equip you to do just that and help you lead into the following Sunday.

