DEAR FAMILY,

We have been learning about the church as the Body of Christ. We learned that the church is rooted in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for the sins of the world and consists of those who believe in Jesus Christ. God works in the church to forgive sins and to give eternal life through faith in Jesus' death and resurrection. Without this work of Jesus, there is no church. We also learned that this church is eternal, that our entire lives are lived in the church, and the church will last beyond our death and even beyond the end of the world.

We spent time thinking about the role of the church in our lives now and in our future. How important is your membership in the church to your identity? How do Jesus' death and resurrection shape your daily life?

How can you and your family help within your church family? As individuals, you may find ways to serve in volunteer roles. As a family, you may think of ways to encourage your pastor(s) and other church workers in their special roles so that they feel supported and loved. You can check with church leadership to be sure that your church workers are well cared for with their daily needs. And if any of you are considering professional church work, you can reach out to your pastor(s) and other church worker(s) for advice on the next steps.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

TIME WELL SPENT

Think about the time you spend on social media, gaming, or on your phone. Think about what's most important eternally. God has given us His Word so that we can read it, and the Spirit will keep us in the faith as we read the truth about Jesus. This week, take time to read the Bible. Put down your phone or game before you go to bed and read a little of the Bible. Read Romans 8. Read Ephesians 2. Read 1 John. Try it.

CONSIDER THIS

Who acts in and who receives salvation? God acts alone to save sinners. Every person is born with original sin and is born dead. God gives life through the forgiveness of sins won by Jesus on the cross. Eternal life is given through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. This is all given to sinners by grace. God graciously gives us church workers to teach us this Good News. How can you thank the church workers you know?

WORD OF GOD

Talk as a family about when you read the Bible. If you have questions about the Bible, ask your pastor about what the Bible means.

Take advantage of opportunities that your church provides for learning God's Word.

LESSON 3 HANDOUT

Caring for Our Church Workers

Romans 10:14-17

Gifts of Grace

Read Romans 10:14-17.

- How did you learn about Jesus?
- What does the Holy Spirit do through the Word?
- Why do we refer to the Word of God as a "means of grace"?
- What are the other means of grace?

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ." (Romans 10:17)

Making Disciples

Read Matthew 28:18-20.

- How does Jesus tell His disciples to make disciples?
- How do Baptism and teaching point to Jesus?
- How has the church continued since the earthly ministry of Jesus?
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