



**ENDURING
FAITH**

@ HOME

Zion Lutheran Church & Preschool, Petoskey

March 29—April 4, 2020

“Family Time” is a very important part of the Christian life. It is a specific time for your household to study God’s Word and communicate to God in prayer. God has ordered our lives that there are some great times of the day that could work to establish a Family Time: when we wake up, when we go to bed, when we sit down to eat, etc. These offer us time to calm down from the hectic pace of life. They happen each day and we already have habits associated with them, so adding family devotions and prayer to these times should hopefully be easier. The following are some suggestions for establishing a Family Time:

1. Establish a time and routine and stick to it (make it a habit). It may be helpful to establish a certain place as well such as your dinner table.
2. Light a candle which reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world and promises to be with us always.

INVOCATION –*The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*
In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE – *Read the Bible verse of the day.*

MEMORY WORK & DEVOTIONAL REFLECTIONS

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION – *A time to apologize, repent, and ask for forgiveness*

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

MUSIC – *Sing or listen to your favorite Christian hymn or song*

MORNING/EVENING PRAYER AND/OR OTHER PRAYERS

LORD’S PRAYER

BLESSING – The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. **Amen.**

Connection Journal

Bible Lesson— Samuel – David / The Story Bible p. 175-184

Small Catechism Lesson—The Means of Grace & Baptism Parts 3 & 4 p. 297-304 (2017 edition).

Memory Work – **Psalm 103:2,4** “Bless the Lord,...who crowns you with steadfast love & mercy.”

–The Power of Baptism.

How can water do such great things? *Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God’s word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: “He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.” (Titus 3:5–8)*

–What does such baptizing with water indicate? It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever. St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: “We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” (Rom. 6:4)

Day 1— 2 Corinthians 5:17 What change happens to you in Baptism?

Day 2— 1 Peter 3:20–21 What Old Testament event is connected to Baptism?

Day 3— Galatians 5:17 How do the Spirit and your flesh interact?

Day 4— Romans 6:3–4 How are we raised with Christ?

Day 5— Galatians 2:20 What change happens in your Baptism?

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

For youth confirmation class: By signing this, you confirm that your household did participate in memory work and family prayers to help form your confirmand in God’s Word. If you were unable to do so for whatever reason, please let your leader know.

Visual Faith

**“Bless the Lord, . . .
who crowns you with
steadfast love and mercy.”
Psalm 103:2,4**

God sends Samuel to anoint the next king of Israel, with the reminder, “The Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7). God rejects each of Jesse’s sons, so Samuel sends for the youngest, David, whom God has chosen to become the greatest king of Israel. Surviving Saul’s insane jealousy, David becomes king and establishes Jerusalem as his stronghold.

TAKING IT HOME

- **On the Go**— When God told Samuel to anoint David, He said that He doesn’t look at outward appearances but at the heart. What does this mean? Why is this a good thing?
- **At Mealttime**— When young David cared for his father’s sheep, he learned useful skills that helped him in the future. Talk about one skill each person in your family is learning now that will probably be helpful in the future.
- **Before Bed**— King David was the leader of the nation of Israel. Pray together before bed, asking God to bless and guide your nation’s leader.



Activity

Impossible?

Theme: In Baptism, a great miracle has occurred. Through faith, Baptism works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Materials: An egg, a bowl, and an eggbeater; or a glass of water and towel

Break a raw egg into a bowl. Beat the egg. Then ask a family member to put the egg back into the shell. Or spill a glass of water and ask someone to put the water back into the glass. Talk about the impossibility of the performance of these tasks.

Move to a discussion of the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Talk about the “impossible” workings God’s Spirit accomplishes through water and the Word. Through Baptism, we receive the gifts of forgiveness, new life, and salvation that Jesus earned for us. God uses simple water and His Word to do the lifesaving work. Why can we believe this, because God commands it and He always keeps His promises!

Zion Lutheran
PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN
Growing Children of God



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www.zionlutheranpetoskey.org