



Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

PSALM 34:11 (NIV)

Dear parent, teacher, grandparent, beloved in the Lord...

Thank you for requesting our customizable family devotion schedule! We are excited to share this monthly resource with you and pray that it serves your family well.

LCMS Family Ministry is here to support and encourage you as you pass down the faith to the next generation. Whatever the age or stage of your family may be, spending time together in the Word and in prayer will keep your family firmly rooted and grounded in the One who never changes (HEB. 13:8).

Even children at a very young age can begin to learn the prayers of the church, the Ten Commandments, the Creeds and the parts of the Small Catechism, and memorize passages of Scripture.

Though not all-inclusive, we hope that this schedule will serve as a launching point for further family study and conversation. What a gift and privilege it is to nurture children in the fear of the Lord! The family that prays together, confesses Christ together and studies the unchanging Word together is a strong and unshakeable force (PSALM 1:3).

HOW TO USE

This monthly devotional schedule is fully customizable. The memory work can also be changed, based on what is best for the age of your family members. For little ones, consider finding songs online or making up your own that aid in memory recitation — everything is always more fun (and easier) to learn with song! The memory work is intended to be recited each day and even multiple times per day ... think in the car, while brushing teeth and especially during devotion time!

Each day of the week also has its own particular focus. The prayers, or the subject of the prayers, are printed on the back of the Family Devotions Calendar. The Lord's Prayer and Luther's Evening Prayer are meant to be prayed collectively, and eventually, from memory. The rest of the prayers are meant to be more extemporaneous. They can be led by the head of the household, or each family member can take turns praying out loud. This is a great opportunity for children to learn the model for prayer and the reverence of prayer.

- Sundays are set aside for learning the catechism. You can find the accompanying Catechism Memory Cards on our website at resources.lcms.org/general/catechism-memory-cards/. Choose a single question for review or try to tackle multiple cards in one day!

- Mondays are an opportunity to recite one of the three ecumenical creeds. These have been printed on the back of the Family Devotions Calendar for your reference.
- On certain Tuesdays, the family will learn the Ten Commandments. You can find the accompanying flashcards at resources.lcms.org/general/catechism-memory-cards/ and on other Tuesdays, kids will get the chance to choose a book from your family's library of Jesus books.
- Wednesdays are a chance to review the books of the Bible. We suggest starting with the Old Testament books and learning them in the order that they appear in our Bibles. There are many songs that have been written to help put these to memory. A simple online search will populate a ton of different catchy tunes!
- On Thursdays, the family reads a Bible story, either from a children's Bible or from Scripture. For a list of children's Bibles, check out the Resources Guide on the last page of this document.
- Friday is a chance for reviewing what you've learned throughout the week. You can also revisit any of the flashcards or study the Days of Creation flashcards found at resources.lcms.org/general/catechism-memory-cards/.
- Finally, on Saturday, the family prepares for the Divine Service. In addition to daily memory work and prayers, consider choosing a hymn from the hymnal or use one of the resources from the Resources Guide.

Remember, this schedule is meant to be tweaked and tuned for your own family. It is simply a guideline and can be used in any way that serves your family best! If only one or two elements can be used in a day, that's okay. If a day gets missed or skipped, there is grace and the chance to return to it fresh the following day.

Be encouraged, be strengthened, and be rooted and grounded in love, so that together you "may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God" (EPH. 3:18-19).

Resources Guide

FLASHCARDS FOR DOWNLOAD AND PRINT:



[Catechism Memory Cards, Ten Commandments and Days of Creation](#)

FOR THE HYMNS:



[My First Hymnal](#)



[Kloria books](#)



[Lutheran Service Book](#)

FOR THE BIBLE STORIES:



[The Story Bible](#)



[A Children's Garden of Bible Stories](#)



[Concordia's Bible History](#)



[Arch books](#)



[One Hundred Bible Stories](#)



[The Lutheran Study Bible](#)

OTHER RECOMMENDED READING:



[Follow and Do](#)



[My First Catechism](#)



[Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation](#)



[Whisper, Whisper: Learning about Church](#)



[Luther's Small Catechism for Kids](#)

FOR ADDITIONAL MEMORY WORK IDEAS:



[Memory Verse Challenge](#)