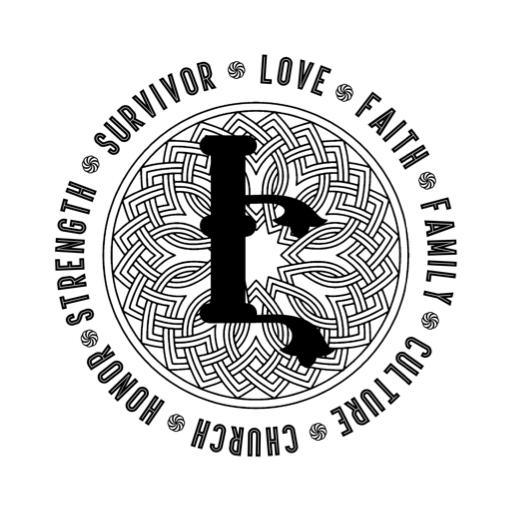
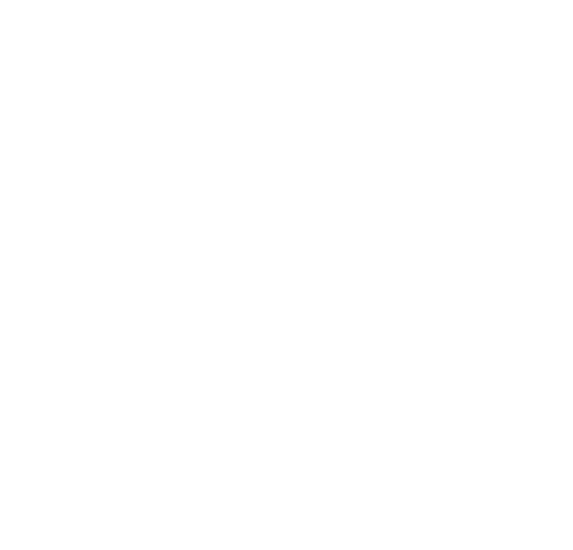
When children and parents have faith discussions regularly, faith multiplies.



Faith at Home

**Theme of the Sunday:** *The Birth of Christ – The reason for the season.*

**Verse of the Sunday:** “So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Gospel of Luke 2:4-12

**Message/Moral of the day:** After Jesus was born, some wise men heard that a King had been born. They wanted to find the King so that they could worship and honor him. They went to Jerusalem and asked some priests there if they knew where to find the King. The priests knew where Jesus was to be born because they had been told by the prophet Micah. So they told the wise men that they would find the newborn King in Bethlehem. As you know, the wise men did not have a map to guide them to Bethlehem, but they had something even better. God gave them a star to guide them. So the wise men followed the directions that the priests had given them and followed the star that God gave them and it led them right to Jesus. When they found him, they gave him gifts and bowed down and worshiped him.

Wise men, like you and me, are still seeking for Jesus today. We don't look for him in Bethlehem, because he is no longer there. He is on his throne in heaven. We don't need a map to help us find him -- we don't even need a star to help us find him. We can find our way to Jesus by reading God's Holy Word in the Bible. The Bible is our treasure map and our star that leads us to the greatest and most valuable treasure of all: Jesus!

At Christmas, it is easy to be distracted from looking for Jesus. Sometimes we are distracted by decorating our Christmas trees, buying presents for friends and family, sending Christmas cards, or even by that jolly old elf named Santa Claus. But we should always remember that the greatest Christmas treasure of all is Jesus.

**Faith at Home:**

* Talk with your children about what Christmas is really about.
* Give a gift to someone who cannot afford.
* Invite someone who is alone to celebrate Christmas with you.

**Prayer & Worship:** Heavenly Father, we are thankful that you loved us so much that you gave us the biggest gift of all. You sent your only Son to be our Savior. In the name of the Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.

**Liturgical Calendar:** Today we remember King David: poet and warrior, fugitive and conqueror; a man of twists and turns who knew both the exhilaration of victory and the desolation of personal loss, as well as James: the apostle called the “Brother of the Lord,” who after Christ’s ascension led the church in its turbulent dawning days, and became the first bishop of Jerusalem.