

TAKING FAITH HOME



11th August 2013

the *faith*5 faith acts in the home



share your highs and lows of the day or discuss some of the questions from the **FOURKEYS caring conversations**.



read and highlight a passage of scripture in your Bible. These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Luke 12:32-40	Seek treasures in heaven
Monday	Luke 12:41-48	Parable of the servants
Tuesday	Matthew 6:19-24	Store up heavenly treasures
Wednesday	Matthew 19:16-26	The rich young man
Thursday	Matthew 13:44-46	A parable about treasure
Friday	Ecclesiastes 9:7-12	Wisdom for living
Saturday	Proverbs 2:1-11	The treasure of wisdom
Sunday	Luke 12:49-56	Jesus the cause of division



talk about how the Bible passage relates to your highs and lows or discuss some of the ideas in **FOURKEYS devotions**.



pray for your highs and lows, for your family, and for the world.



bless one another using the following blessing or make up your own.

mealtime prayer

Food on our table.
Grace in our lives.
Praise in our hearts.
Thank you, God! Amen.

verse for the week

Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being certain of what we do not see.

HEBREWS 11:1 (NIRV)

blessing

May God give you faith in his promises. May his faithful love rest on you as you hope in him.
Amen.

HEBREWS 11:1 &
PSALM 33:22

FOURKEYS

for practising faith



1. **caring conversations**

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you had to wait for something.
- Jesus tells us to be always ready for him to return (Luke 12:35-40). What can we do to be ready for him?
- How do you feel about Jesus' returning? Do you think you are ready?

2. **devotions**

In Genesis 15:1-6 we hear that God made a special covenant with Abram, promising him as many descendants as there were stars in the sky! In your home devotion times this week, make up a list of the different promises that God has made to his people e.g. "God has promised to save us", "God has promised us eternal life", "God has promised to answer our prayers". Write each one onto a piece of yellow paper cut into a star shape. Place these onto your walls or ceiling as a reminder of God's love and grace.

3. **service**

Hebrews 11 lists people from the Bible who showed faith in God. Who have been examples of faith to members of your household? Write letters to these people, thanking them for their example.

4. **rituals & traditions**

Jesus told his followers to wait for him like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding party. Gather a candle for each member of your household. When you sit down for meals this week, light the candles and say these words (from Luke 12:35):

Leader: "Be dressed and ready for service and keep your lamps burning."

Response: "For Jesus, our master, is coming".

ParentWord

- Surround Your Children with Faith Witnesses

Hebrews 11 reminds us that as Christians we are part of a long chain of faith that extends right back to Adam and Eve! Living faithfully is never an individual enterprise – to have faith is to be connected to other persons of faith, both past, present and future. As parents, one of the greatest gifts we can give to our children is deep and meaningful connections with other witnesses to the faith. Their stories and examples confirm, extend and reinforce our own parental witness to God's gracious activity.

- Be intentional about exposing your children to other Christian adults who can serve as positive and encouraging role models to them.
- Ask grandparents, aunts and uncles to share their own faith stories with your children.
- Read your children stories about historical figures of Christian faith e.g. Martin Luther, Francis of Assisi, David Livingstone.



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