

TAKING FAITH HOME

28th July 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 11:1-13	Jesus teaches about prayer
Monday	Luke 18:1-8	A parable about prayer
Tuesday	Luke 18:9-14	Parable about two men praying
Wednesday	1 Samuel 1:1-20	Hannah prays to the Lord
Thursday	1 Kings 18:16-46	Elijah prays to the Lord
Friday	2 Kings 19:9-20,32-36	Hezekiah prays to the Lord
Saturday	Psalms 32:6-11	Let all the godly pray
Sunday	Luke 12:13-21	Parable of the rich fool



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.

mealt ime prayer

Thank you, God, for this our food, for life and health and every good. May we - more blessed than we deserve - live less for self and more to serve. Amen.

verse for the week

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you."

LUKE 11:9 (NIV)

bl essing

May God watch over you and save you from trouble. May all the good plans God has for you come to be. Amen.

PSALM 138:6-8

FOURKEYS

for practising faith



1. caring conversations

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Whom do you find it easy to talk to? Why?
- Do you find prayer easy or difficult? Why?
- When Jesus' disciples wanted to learn how to pray, Jesus taught them the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4). What is your favourite part of the prayer? What part do you find it hardest to pray or to understand?



2. devotions

In your home devotion times this week, focus on the different parts of the Lord's Prayer in turn: (1) Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. (2) Your kingdom come. (3) Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. (4) Give us today our daily bread. (5) Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. (6) Lead us not into temptation. (7) But deliver us from evil. Talk together about what each part means and how it applies to you (e.g. "How do we keep God's name holy?"; "How do we help God's kingdom to come?"; "How can we show appreciation for the daily gifts God give us?"). If you have a young child in your home, take this opportunity to help them memorise the prayer.



3. service

One way of the best ways we can serve others is by bringing their needs before God in prayer. What needs do you see in the lives of others around you? Make a point of praying for 2-3 people in particular this week. Send them a card to let them know that they have been in your prayers (sign it as a household).



4. rituals & traditions

Prayer is a practice we need to learn, both as individuals and as households (even Jesus' disciples needed to learn how to pray!). What part does prayer play in your home life?

Consider building these different forms of prayer into your home routine:

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER:

Pray for household members personally on special occasions, such as birthdays. In addition, try instituting times during the week when you specifically pray for one another.

PRAYING FOR OTHERS:

Include a time each week to pray for persons outside your household, and for the needs of the wider world.

MEALTIME PRAYERS:

Make mealtime graces a part of your daily life. Use the weekly mealtime resources provided in 'Taking Faith Home'.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING:

Make a habit of offering thanks to God often. Give thanks together when you return safely from a trip, when good news is received, and when milestones are reached.



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