

TAKING FAITH HOME

20th October 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 18:1-8	Parable of the persistent widow
Monday	Mark 10:46-52	An example of persistence
Tuesday	Luke 22:39-46	Jesus prays on the Mount of Olives
Wednesday	Matthew 15:21-28	The faith of a Canaanite woman
Thursday	James 5:13-18	The prayer of faith
Friday	Genesis 18:16-33	Abraham pleads for Sodom
Saturday	Psalms 57	I cry out to the God Most High
Sunday	Luke 18:9-14	A Pharisee and tax collector pray



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

Lord, in your name we drink and sup; teach us to pray and not give up. Help us to look to you this day, and show our thanks in all we say. Amen.

verse for the week

The Lord keeps you from all harm and watches over your life. The Lord keeps watch over you as you come and go, both now and forever.

PSALM 121:7-8 (NLT)

blessing

May the Lord keep you from all harm and watch over your life. May he watch over you as you come and go, now and forever. Amen.

PSALM 121:7-8

FOURKEYS

for practising faith

Discuss in your household or small group:

1. caring conversations

- Who do you turn to when you're in trouble? Why?
- Share about a time when you asked God for help.
- Jesus taught us that God never gets sick of hearing our prayers, even when we ask for the same things over and over again. What does this teach us about God?

2. devotions

Luke 18:7 talks of God's people crying out to him "day and night". Prayer each morning and evening gives spiritual bookends to home life. As a household devotional practice for this week, use Martin Luther's Morning and Evening Prayers each day.

MORNING PRAYER

I thank you, heavenly Father, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and danger. I ask you to keep me this day, too, from all sin and evil, so that in all my thoughts, words and deeds I may please you. In your hands I place my body and soul and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the evil one may have no power over me. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER

I thank you, heavenly Father, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that you have graciously protected me today. I ask you to forgive all my sins and the wrong which I have done. And graciously keep me this night. In your hands I place my body and soul and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the evil one may have no power over me. Amen.

3. service

Jesus told a parable about a woman who "bothered" the judge in her town until he gave in and listened to her. Find out the names of the local magistrate/s in your town or region. Send them a letter or card of encouragement or support, and pray that they will have the strength and courage to make wise and good decisions in their work.

4. rituals & traditions

Jesus encourages us to be persistent in our prayers and to "not give up" (Luke 18:1). Start a home Prayer Journal as a tool to encourage and guide your household prayers. Purchase or make a small book. Keep a running list of prayer points in the journal, noting the date you commenced prayer for each item. Cross prayer points off once the need for prayer has passed or the prayer has been answered. The Journal will help to both direct your prayers and draw your attention to God's responses. Expect God to hear and to answer your prayers!



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