

TAKING FAITH HOME

27th 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 18:9-14	A Pharisee and tax collector pray
Monday	Matthew 23:1-12	Jesus teaches about humility
Tuesday	Philippians 2:1-11	Imitating Christ's humility
Wednesday	Matthew 6:5-13	Jesus teaches about prayer
Thursday	James 4:6-10	God will lift you up
Friday	Isaiah 57:13-19	God gives new life to the humble
Saturday	Psalms 138	God looks upon the lowly
Sunday	Luke 19:1-10	Jesus visits Zacchaeus



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

We thank you for our food, O God, for life and joy and play.
We thank you for the special things you give to us this day. Amen.

verse for the week

"If you put yourself above others, you will be put down. But if you humble yourself, you will be honoured."
LUKE 18:14B (CEV)

blessing

May the Lord Jesus stand by your side. May he give you strength to share his good news with others. Amen.
2 TIMOTHY 4:17

FOURKEYS

for practising faith



Discuss in your household or small group:

- Have you ever felt abandoned by a friend? What happened?
- Even when his friends abandoned him, Paul writes that "The Lord stood by my side and gave me strength" (2 Timothy 4:16-17). When and how have you experienced God strengthening you?
- What does it mean to "stand by" others?



As part of your home devotional time this week share things you see in one another that make you proud of them (e.g. "I was proud of you when ..."). Talk about the difference between being proud and being prideful. Give thanks to God in prayer for the good qualities you see in one another.



In 2 Timothy 4, St. Paul writes of his experience of being deserted by others, of feeling alone. Be the hands and feet of Christ, reaching out to the lonely in your area. Invite someone who lives alone or who is new to your community to a meal at your home. Aim to get to know them better and to introduce them to others.



The writer of Psalm 84 speaks of their journey to the temple in Jerusalem. The psalmist was looking forward to being able to worship God in his "house". As a household activity, take a road trip to look at the different Christian churches in your area. How are they alike? How are they different? Talk about the part that worship of God plays in your life as a household.

ParentWord - Helping Children Make Good Friends

As your children choose their own friends, they may choose friends you like and others you're not so sure about. How do you help your children choose good friends without being controlling or manipulative? Here are some suggestions:

Ask inviting questions — Find out what your children like about their friends and their families, and affirm what you like. Talk about what is good to look for in a friend.

Encourage diverse friendships — Encourage your children to make friends with people from many different backgrounds and perspectives.

Monitor friendships — Avoid criticising friendships that seem negative, but don't be afraid to respectfully raise concerns you may have.

Don't Over-react — Listen closely to your children's perspective before rushing to judgment. Understand that children and teenagers will "try out" a wide variety of friends.



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