

TAKING FAITH HOME

27th October 2013 - Reformation Sunday



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	John 8:31-36	God's Word sets people free
Monday	Isaiah 55:6-11	God's Word achieves his purposes
Tuesday	Romans 1:8-17	The gospel is the power of God
Wednesday	Romans 15:1-7	The Scriptures give encouragement
Thursday	Colossians 3:5-17	Let the word of Christ dwell in you
Friday	2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:5	The value of God's word
Saturday	Psalms 119:89-112	God's Word preserves life
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

Lord Jesus, please bless the food before us, the people beside us, and the world around us. Amen.

verse for the week

All of us have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. But God treats us much better than we deserve, and because of Christ Jesus, he freely accepts us and sets us free from our sins.

ROMANS 3:23-24 (CEV)

blessing

May the Lord Jesus set you free. May his words live in your mind and your heart, now and always. Amen.

JOHN 8:36 & JEREMIAH 31:33

FOURKEYS

for practising faith



Discuss in your household or small group:

- What is something you feel strongly about?
- Martin Luther felt very strongly about God's Word being properly preached and taught. Why is God's Word important?
- What part does God's Word play in your life?

Use one or more of these suggestions for your home devotional times this week:

1. The Reformation was sparked when Martin Luther posted 95 theses (or statements) of belief on the doors of a church in Wittenberg, Germany in 1517. Compose a numbered list of "we believe" statements for your household. Attach the list to the front door of your home as your Reformation statement.
2. In 1521 Martin Luther was required to explain and defend his beliefs before the Emperor at a Diet (or Assembly) in the city of Worms. When asked to take back his words he said "Here I stand. I can do no other". Talk together about what is involved in taking a stand for Jesus. Then trace the footprints of household members on pieces of card and cut these out. On each one write these words from 1 Corinthians 15:58: "Stand firm. Don't let anything move you. Always give yourselves completely to the work of the Lord." Position the footprints on floors of your house as reminders of the call to stand up for Jesus.
3. Learn the words and tune of the classic Reformation hymn "A Mighty Fortress is our God".



Valuing God's Word means supporting and encouraging those who proclaim and teach it. Plan an act of service for your pastor e.g. take them to dinner, buy them a movie ticket, offer to mow their lawn or wash their car. Let them know that you appreciate their ministry.



On Reformation Day (Thursday, 31 October) plan an alternative celebration to Halloween. Here are some ideas:

- Dress up in red attire (the Reformation Day color). Instead of "trick and treating", visit neighbours to give them something (e.g. a small packet of biscuits), symbolising God's grace to us.
- Play some Reformation Day games e.g. have a "mighty fortress" Lego building contest; play "Hide the Heretic" (think Hide and Seek); play "Pin the Theses on the Door" (think Pin the Tail); have a "Throw the Indulgence in the Rubbish" relay. Invite friends and neighbours to join in. Hand out gummy worms as prizes (think Diet of Worms).



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