

TAKING FAITH HOME



15th September 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 15:1-10	The lost sheep and the lost coin
Monday	John 10:11-18	Jesus, the good shepherd
Tuesday	Judges 10:6-16	The Israelites repent
Wednesday	Ezra 9:1-5, 10:1-12	The people of Israel confess
Thursday	Romans 5:1-11	Christ died for sinners
Friday	2 Peter 3:8-13	That all may come to repentance
Saturday	Psalms 85	Restore us again, O God
Sunday	Luke 16:1-13	Parable of the shrewd manager



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

In grace you seek us and with love you feed us. Lord, help us serve all those who need us. Amen.

verse for the week

Here is a saying that you can trust. It should be accepted completely. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 TIMOTHY 1:15A (NIRV)

blessing

May God bless you with his kindness and generosity. May he fill you with the faith and love that come from Jesus Christ. Amen.

1 TIMOTHY 1:14

FOURKEYS

for practising faith

Discuss in your household or small group:



- Share about a time when you lost something. What did you do?
- Read the parable of the lost sheep (Luke 15:3-7). How do people get "lost" from God? How does God respond?
- What does it mean to repent? How does God treat those who repent?



Jesus told a parable about a woman who, when she lost a silver coin, searched carefully until she found it (Luke 15:8-10). He compared the woman in the story to God, who searches out sinners and rejoices when they turn to him. Place a jar of coins in your home devotional area. In your home devotion times this week, invite household members to take a coin and share something from their day they would like to say sorry to God for. Finish by saying this prayer together:
"Thank you, God, for searching for us when we stray from you. Thank you for finding us and forgiving us. Amen."



Take a large garbage bag and go for a neighbourhood walk. Collect as many "lost" or discarded items as you can find.



WITH YOUNGER CHILDREN: Hide real or chocolate coins in your house and play a good old-fashioned game of "hide and seek". If you use real coins, spend what you find on a treat for the household. Talk about how God rejoices when people who are lost from him return.

WITH OLDER CHILDREN: Work together on completing a jigsaw puzzle. As you do, talk about how each piece in the puzzle is needed and has a special place – and how, in a similar way, each one of us is valuable to God and is sought out by him. Share about the special qualities you see in one another.

ParentWord - Memos from Your Child

Advice a "wise" child might give to their parents ...

- Don't spoil me. I know I ought not have all I've asked for. I'm only testing you.
- Don't be afraid to be firm with me. I prefer it. It makes me feel more secure.
- Don't let me form bad habits. I'm relying on you for their early detection.
- Don't make me feel "small". It only makes me behave stupidly trying to be "big".
- Don't correct me in front of others if you can help it. I prefer it in private.
- Don't protect me from consequences. I need to learn the painful way sometimes.
- Don't make rash promises. It breaks trust when promises are broken.



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