

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Mark 13:1-8	Signs of the end of the age
Monday	Isaiah 65:17-25	God's new creation
Tuesday	Matthew 24:14,23-35	The coming of the Son of Man
Wednesday	1 John 2:18-28	Warning against antichrists
Thursday	1 John 4:1-6	The true Spirit and false spirits
Friday	Jude 17-25	Final warnings and instructions
Saturday	Psalms 13	Prayer for salvation
Sunday	John 18:33-37	Jesus, the King of truth

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Scripture Verse for the Week:

Let us not give up meeting together. Some are in the habit of doing this.

Instead, let us cheer each other up with words of hope. Let us do it all the more as you see the day coming when Christ will return. – Hebrews 10:25 (NIRV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayer for this Week:

Lord, you have been faithful to me. Help me to remain faithful in worshipping you. Amen. (Hebrews 10:23,25)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord God, keep me from being tricked so that I fall away from you. Help me to always have faith in you. Amen. (Mark 13:5)

A Blessing to Share:

*May God protect you in body, soul and mind.
May God keep you strong in following him, now and always.
Amen.*

Mealtime Refrain:

The Lord is always with us:
We will not be shaken, for he is right beside us. (Psalm 16:8)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, you show us the path that leads to life; you fill us with joy when we are with you; and your blessings to us never end. Thank you, God! Amen. (Psalm 16:11)



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Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- When do you meet with other Christians? What does this mean to you?
- How can Christians “motivate one another to acts of love and good works” (Hebrews 10:24)? Why is this important?
- Who has encouraged you in your faith? Whom might you encourage?

Devotional Practices:

Hebrews 10:24 tells us to keep meeting together regularly as Christians to encourage and motivate one another in following Jesus and serving others. In your household devotional times this week, take turns in sharing ways God has used you to love and serve others during the last day. Support each person with this cheer: “Praise God for (Name)!!”

Service:

Plan a special gift that you can donate to help the needy in your community this Christmas – for example, begin purchasing non-perishable food items to make up a Christmas hamper or gift basket. Contact a local community organization or charity that distributes aid to needy households for advice on how to best donate your gift.

Rituals and Traditions:

Psalm 16:7 says: “I will praise the Lord. He gives me good advice. Even at night my heart teaches me.” When we read or listen to God’s Word at the end of the day, our hearts and minds are filled with good things that carry us through the night. Even as we sleep God’s Spirit is at work, ministering to us and leading us. As a household, commit to each spending a few moments reading or listening to God’s Word before you go to sleep this week. Parents, use the Bible or Bible storybooks for bedtime stories with your children. Memorize Psalm 4:8 to say with them – “I can lie down and sleep soundly because you, Lord, will keep me safe.”

Parent Toolbox: Preparing Together for Sunday Worship

Our experiences of Sunday worship are much richer when we intentionally prepare our hearts and minds to spend time in the presence of God and our fellow Christians. Consider these ideas to help you prepare as a household:

- Pray together about Sunday worship on Saturday.
- Prepare for Sunday morning on Saturday evening e.g. set the breakfast table, put out clothes and your offering gifts.
- Refuse to argue about household, marital or work issues on Sunday mornings.
- Read through the Sunday readings before you go to church.
- Listen to Christian music at home beforehand and on the way to church.

FOUR KEYS FOR THE HOME

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