

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:



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

Sunday	Matthew 5:1-12	The sermon on the mount
Monday	Isaiah 57:14-19	God will revive the lowly
Tuesday	Isaiah 51:12-16	Our God of comfort
Wednesday	Jeremiah 22:1-5,15-16	Do what is just and right
Thursday	Matthew 9:10-13	Jesus speaks of mercy
Friday	James 3:13-18	Sowing in peace
Saturday	Psalms 15	Living on God's holy hill
Sunday	Matthew 5:13-20	Salt and light

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:

The Lord has told you what he wants from you: to do what is right to other people, love being kind to others, and live humbly, obeying your God. *Micah 6:8* (NCV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

God, give us a hunger and a thirst for what is right, and bless us with the power to do good. Amen.

Epiphany Mealtime Prayer:

Christ our light, shine upon us. Refresh us through this meal to reflect your love to others. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with a thirst for what is pure, right, and good. May your life become a great blessing to others. Amen.

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CARING CONVERSATION:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you felt foolish or weak. Have you ever experienced God at work through your weaknesses or failings?
- Read 1 Corinthians 1:28. This tells us that God uses what the world thinks is “worthless, useless, and nothing at all” to show his power and to save people. What is this talking about?

DEVOTIONS:

Matthew 5:3-12 contains eight blessing statements of Jesus that are called the Beatitudes (from the Latin ‘beatus’). The Beatitudes sum up how God wants us to live our lives as his people, or the way he wants our “attitude to be”. In your home devotional times this week, talk about the statements one at a time. What do you think they mean? Which one do you find most challenging or difficult? In what ways have you experienced the blessings that Jesus talks about?

SERVICE:

The prophet Micah told God’s people that he wanted them to worship him not only with their words but also with their actions; he wanted them to show kindness, be merciful, and treat others in good and right ways. In what ways is your home a “Micah” home? How do others experience God’s kindness and mercy through you? How could you grow in this aspect of household life?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS:

When we bless another person we are calling upon God to show his goodness and kindness to them, as well as demonstrating our own care and concern for them. There are three basic elements to a personal blessing – God’s name, words, and touch (e.g. a hand on a shoulder, or making the sign of the cross on their forehead or palm). Good times for using blessings in a home are mealtimes, bedtimes and at daily farewells (e.g. when children leave for school or parents leave for work). Practice blessing each other this coming week.

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