

## 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	Mark 1:21-28	Jesus casts out an evil spirit
Monday	Matthew 7:15-29	Jesus teaches with authority
Tuesday	Matthew 8:28-34	Jesus heals two men with demons
Wednesday	Luke 4:31-37	Jesus' authority over evil spirits
Thursday	John 5:16-27	Jesus' authority to judge
Friday	Acts 16:16-18	Paul casts out an evil spirit
Saturday	Psalms 35:1-10	God is our defender
Sunday	Mark 1:29-39	Jesus heals many people

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:

Every bone in my body will shout: "No one is like the LORD!" You protect the helpless from those in power; you save the poor and needy from those who hurt them." **Psalm 35:10 (CEV)**

## SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

### A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, please protect us from evil and teach us your ways.  
Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, without your love we'd go unfed. Thank you for our daily bread.  
Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Jesus protect you from evil and teach you his ways.  
Amen.

### CARING CONVERSATION:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a teacher you liked and respected. What did you learn from them?
- Read Mark 1:21-22. Why do you think people were amazed at Jesus' teachings?
- What do you find amazing about Jesus?
- What do you wish to learn from Jesus?

### DEVOTIONS:

Make it a focus of your home prayer time this week to pray for teachers, including those who teach others about Christ in seminaries, schools and churches.

### SERVICE:

Think of a teacher you are thankful for. Phone them with a word of encouragement, write them a letter, or send them a card.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS:

If you have a household member who is a student, share a household time of prayer and blessing. Here is a prayer you can use:

Heavenly Father, be with \_\_\_ in his/her studies. Keep \_\_\_ safe from anything that would harm him/her in body, mind or spirit. Help \_\_\_ to gain enjoyment from learning and to learn well. Help \_\_\_ to be happy at school and to have good friendships. Help \_\_\_ to show your love to others at school and to do what is right. And help \_\_\_ to remember that you are with him/her every day, whatever happens; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### From Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*:

The Gospel story from Mark shows Jesus' power over evil. In the Lord's Prayer we pray, "Deliver us from evil." This is what Martin Luther wrote about this prayer in his *Small Catechism*:

"In this prayer we sum up all our prayers. We are asking: 'Father, save us from every kind of evil – anything that could hurt our body or soul, our possessions or reputation. Be with us when we die. Be kind to us and take us from the troubles of this world to be with you in heaven.'"