

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 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants
Monday	Ezekiel 19:1,10-14	A lament for Israel the vine
Tuesday	Amos 9:11-15	God will restore Israel
Wednesday	Luke 13:6-9	Parable of the fig tree
Thursday	John 7:40-52	Acceptance and rejection of Jesus
Friday	Acts 14:1-7	Acceptance and rejection of the Gospel
Saturday	Psalms 128	Blessed are all who fear the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding feast

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:

"The stone the builders didn't accept has become the most important stone of all. The Lord has done it. It is wonderful in our eyes."

Matthew 21:42 (NIRV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, there is nothing more important than knowing you. Please keep our faith strong. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank you for the food before us, the friends around us, the love between us, and your presence with us. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord watch over you and smile on you this day. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Have you ever won a prize or an award? Share your story.
- Read Philippians 3:12-14. What prize was Paul trying to win?
- How important is that prize to you? How can you receive it? (see Philippians 3:9).

Acceptance and love sometimes seem like a prize we need to earn, but God gives love freely and invites us to do the same. How do you show love for the people around you? Here are some ways to share love with those around you, especially children:

- Say the word “love” a lot.
- Be careful not to criticize; simply tell them a better way.
- Teach the principles of “why,” not just “what” to do or not to do.
- Discipline with love. Don’t let rules become more important than relationships.
- Teach them about truth by telling the truth yourself and being trustworthy for them.
- Ask them what they need from you – and try to meet those needs.
- When you are stressed and unavailable, help them know that your condition is about your life, not them, and reaffirm your love.

DEVOTIONS:

Gather some river stones. As a home devotional activity, take turns attempting to build a stone “tower” by placing the stones one on top of another. See who can build the tallest tower. Talk together about the different things that people try to build their lives upon, and Christ’s place as the “most important stone of all.” Pray together for faith and strength to build your lives upon him.

SERVICE:

The prophet Isaiah compared God’s Old Testament people to a vineyard that God planted and cared for (Isaiah 5:1-7). Volunteer this week to help a sick or elderly person clean up their garden, or to help maintain your church grounds or a community area.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS:

Jesus was the “stone the builders rejected” who became the most important stone of all (Matthew 21:42). Have each member of your household choose a small stone to carry with them this week. Draw or paint a cross on each stone. Let the stones remind you of Jesus and what he has done for you.