

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 25:1-13	Parable of the wise and foolish girls
Monday	Matthew 24:36-44	Keep watch
Tuesday	Deuteronomy 4:5-20	Watch yourselves carefully
Wednesday	Micah 7:1-7	Watching in hope for the Lord
Thursday	Luke 21:29-36	Be always on the watch
Friday	2 John 1-11	Watch out!
Saturday	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Looking to the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 25:14-30	Parable of the talents

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:

We believe that Jesus died and was raised to life. We also believe that when God brings Jesus back again, he will bring with him all who had faith in Jesus before they died.

1 Thessalonians 4:14 (CEV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, we are waiting for you to come again. Take us to be with you forever. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

For this meal and all God's gifts, let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God!

A Blessing to Give:

May God watch over you. May the Holy Spirit keep your faith strong until Jesus comes again. Amen.

CARING CONVERSATION:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- How does it feel to be running late for an appointment or an event? Share about an experience you have had of being late.
- Jesus told a parable about some women who missed out on a wedding banquet (Matthew 25:1-13). What happened to them?
- Jesus says that we don't know when he will return, so we need to be ready for him. What do you think it means to be ready?

DEVOTIONS:

In your home devotional times this week, think of songs that speak of light and lamps. (One possibility is the song "Give Me Oil in My Lamp" which you can find at http://www.biblestudycharts.com/CH_Give_Me_Oil_In_My_Lamp.html).

SERVICE:

The first Sunday in November is All Saints Day. It is an occasion to show love and care to those who are grieving loved ones who have died. Send a letter and/or card to someone you know who has recently lost a relative or friend. Make a point of praying for them this week.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS:

On All Saints Sunday we remember Christians who have lived before us – and especially those who have been important in our lives. Make time this week to visit a cemetery as a household. If possible, visit the graves of loved ones. Take note of any Christian symbols and Bible references on headstones. Talk about the hope of the resurrection and the eternal home God is preparing for us.