

Taking Faith Home . . . 10th October 2010



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	Luke 17:11-19	One leper gives thanks to God
Monday	Colossians 2:6-15	Overflowing with thankfulness
Tuesday	Deuteronomy 8:10-18	Remember the Lord your God
Wednesday	1 Samuel 2:1-10	Hannah's prayer of thanksgiving
Thursday	1 Chronicles 16:1,7-36	King David gives thanks
Friday	Psalms 100	Enter his gates with thanksgiving
Saturday	Psalms 136	Give thanks to the Lord
Sunday	Luke 18:1-8	Parable of the persistent widow

Scripture Verse for this Week:

Wisdom begins with respect for the Lord; those who obey his orders have good understanding.

Psalm 111:10 (NCV)



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

Say, Pray and Bless:

A Morning Prayer: Lord Jesus, you have given us so much. Please give us one more thing: thankful hearts. Amen. (Luke 17:15-18)

An Evening Prayer: Jesus, our Master, look kindly on us. Clean us up to worship and serve you. Amen. (Luke 17:11-19)

Words to Share: The Lord gives food to those who respect him: *He always keeps his promises.* (Psalm 111:5)

Mealtime Prayer: God of grace, for food make us thankful, for friends make us joyful, and for your service make us faithful. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God show you his kindness and mercy and fill your heart with thanks. Amen. (Psalm 111:4; Luke 17:15)

“Four Keys” for the Home:



#1 – Faith Talk: Discuss in your household or small group:

- What is something for which you are thankful? Why?
- Do you think of yourself as a thankful person? How do you show thanks to others?
- Why can we be thankful to Jesus? How can we show him thanks?

#2 – Devotional Practices: When Jesus healed ten lepers, only one returned to give him thanks (Luke 17:11-19). As God’s people, we are called to count our blessings each day and give thanks to God. Think together about people, events and experiences for which you can and should give thanks. Use this acrostic of the word THANKS to guide you.

Thank God for ... *A Thing provided; A Help received; Another’s company; an eNjoyable moment; a Kindness received; a Surprise enjoyed.*

Finish your time of sharing by giving thanks in prayer.

#3 – Service: Only one of the ten lepers healed returned to thank Jesus. There are many people who serve us in various ways in our communities – in schools, churches, community organizations, service industries – who receive little thanks for what they do. Prepare a thank you card or gift (e.g. a plate of cookies) to give to someone who regularly serves your household in some way (e.g. a postal delivery person, a policeman, a school teacher). Give thanks to God for them in your prayers this week.

4 – Rituals and Traditions: Make time this week in your household to say thanks to one another. Focus on each person in turn. Invite household members to thank them for positive things they have said and done, and for what they contribute to your home life.

Parent Word: Teaching Thankfulness

Thankfulness is an attitude, an attribute, even a worldview that flows from faith. A truly grateful person recognizes and appreciates what they have as coming from God, rather than complaining about what they do not have. But thankfulness isn’t automatic: it must be learnt, encouraged and cultivated. Begin by modeling thankfulness yourself: make a point of thanking your own children and let them see you expressing thanks to others. Be conscious to point out to them things for which they can and should give thanks. Where appropriate, have fun helping them preparing thank you messages or gifts. Teach them that giving thanks is both valuable and enjoyable!