

Taking Faith Home . . . 3rd 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 17:5-10	<i>Faith the size of a mustard seed</i>
Monday	Mark 11:12-14,20-24	<i>Faith that moves mountains</i>
Tuesday	Matthew 8:5-13	<i>A demonstration of faith</i>
Wednesday	1 John 5:1-5,13-15	<i>Faith overcomes the world</i>
Thursday	James 1:2-12	<i>Faith produces endurance</i>
Friday	Revelation 2:12-29	<i>Call to faithfulness</i>
Saturday	Isaiah 26:1-9	<i>Trust in the Lord forever</i>
Sunday	Luke 17:11-19	<i>One leper gives thanks to God</i>

Scripture Verse for this Week:

Take delight in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalms 37:4 (TNIV)



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

Say, Pray and Bless:

A Morning Prayer: Lord, please give us a bigger faith. Help us to do all You ask of us today. Amen. (Luke 17:5-10)

An Evening Prayer:

Lord God, help us not to be afraid to tell others about You. Give us a spirit of power, love and self control. Amen. (2 Tim. 1:7-8)

Words to Share: God has saved us and made us His holy people: *Not because we deserve it, but because He is so kind.* (2 Timothy 1:9)

Mealtime Prayer: Thanks we give to God above, for strength and health and those we love. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

Grace, mercy and peace to you from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen. (2 Timothy 1:2)

“Four Keys” for the Home:



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

- Do you like or dislike gardening? Why?
- Jesus compared faith to a small seed. In what ways is faith like a seed?
- In what ways do you wish you could show more faith in Jesus?

#2 – Devotional Practices: Fill a container with potting soil and plant some flower seeds (at least one for each member of your household). Place the container on your meal table or home altar area. Each day pray for each member of your household by name, asking God to grow them in their faith. Watch your flower pot carefully for signs of life!

#3 – Service: There are many people in our churches who serve as mustard seeds – they do many “little things” that others may not notice but which add up to a big difference. Think of someone in your congregation who fits this description. Prepare a small gift of appreciation to give them.

#4 – Rituals and Traditions: St. Paul encouraged Timothy to “fan into flame” the gift God had given to him (2 Timothy 1:6). God has given each of us gifts that He wishes us to use and develop. Gather some red, orange and yellow streamers. Spend some time as a household naming the gifts that you see in each other. Write each of these on a streamer next to the person’s name. Hang the streamers up in your home as a reminder of the various gifts God has given you for use in serving Him and others

Parent Word: **God’s Great Gift of Grandparents**

Timothy’s grandmother Lois was a person of living faith who had passed on her beliefs to her daughter and grandson (2 Timothy 1:5). Grandparents can play a very special part in communicating faith and values to their grandchildren. In their calling as elders in faith they have wonderful gifts to offer: **SELF-WORTH**. Children feel great when their grandparents give them positive recognition and unconditional love. **HERITAGE**. Whether they close by or far away, grandparents can do much to give children a sense of their identity and belonging. **ACCEPTANCE**. Children need to know that the adults who are important to them accept their enthusiasms, ideas and activities. Such acceptance by grandparents is hugely affirming for grandchildren. **LOVE**. The gift of “I will be there for you at all times, no matter what” - whether spoken aloud, written in a letter, or shown by deeds - will always be the most treasured and remembered gift of all.

Thank your children’s grandparents for what they offer! Remind them that they have a special God-given role and calling.