

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 8:26-39	Jesus casts out demons
Monday	Matthew 8:28-34	Two men with demons are healed
Tuesday	Matthew 17:14-21	Healing of a boy with a demon
Wednesday	Mark 7:24-30	A little girl is rid of a demon
Thursday	Luke 4:31-37	A possessed man in the synagogue
Friday	Luke 11:14-20	Jesus drives out a mute demon
Saturday	Psalms 54	God is my help
Sunday	Luke 9:51-62	The cost of following Jesus

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Scripture Verses for the Week:

All of you who were baptized into Christ have put on Christ as if he were your clothes. There is no Jew or Greek. There is no slave or free person. There is no male or female. Because you belong to Christ Jesus, you are all one.
– Galatians 3:27-28 (NIRV)

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

Prayer for this Week:

Lord Jesus, thank you for setting me free. Help me to tell others how much you have done for me. Amen. (Luke 8:26-39)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord, please stay close to me. You are my strength, come quickly to help me. Amen. (Psalm 22:19)

A Blessing to Share:

Baptized child of God, Jesus has set you free. May he keep you close to him and at one with others. Amen. (Gal. 3:26-28)

Mealtime Refrain:

Through faith in Jesus we are children of God:
We are one people in Christ. (Galatians 3:26-28)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, thank you for the gifts before us, signs of your love and mercy. Help us to tell others how much you have done for us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

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SCRIPTURE

Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What is your favourite item of clothing? Why?
- St. Paul says that when we were baptized we were “clothed with Christ”. What do you think this means?
- How do you “wear” Christ in daily life?

Devotional Practices:

Jesus told the man who had been rid of many demons to “return home and tell how much God has done for you” (Luke 8:39). In your home devotion times this week, build a list of the many different ways that you see God at work providing for you. Use this as the basis for your prayers of thanks throughout the week.

Service:

Spend some time preparing cards or simple gifts for your household to give to those who will be baptized in your congregation this coming year.

Rituals and Traditions:

Galatians 3:26-27 reminds us that in baptism we were “clothed” with or “put on” Christ. When you gather together this week as a household, remember your baptisms by making the sign of the cross on each other’s foreheads. As you do, say these words: “You are a child of God through faith in Jesus. In baptism you were clothed with Christ.” You may also wish to each wear a piece of jewelry or an item of clothing this week to symbolize your identities as children of God. A household activity could involve making simple cross necklaces or symbolic wristbands to wear and/or give away.

Parent Toolbox: Hints for Getting Your Children to Talk to You

Slow down your own life and be available: Kids have a keen sense of how busy you are. If you’re providing enough down-time for you and your kids, they’ll be more likely to feel comfortable talking to you.

Engage in a physical activity that they enjoy: Some kids are more comfortable when they’re moving. Shooting baskets, playing soccer, or a game of catch may have your child chattering away. Moving the body can serve to move the mouth as well!

Use open-ended questions: Learn to use questions that stimulate conversation e.g. “What did you notice about that picture?” works better than “Did you like that picture?”

Use the car as a place for conversation: You’ve got them and they can’t get out! Don’t allow electronic games or music to interfere with your opportunity to talk with them.

Be a parent, but be a friend as well: While you must be a parent first, being a friend to your kids will help them to want to share with you.

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