

AUGUST 9, 2015
ELEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+ faith home

Followers of Jesus are promised eternal life.

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 passages.

Sunday	John 6:35, 41-51	Bread from heaven
Monday	Luke 6:20-26	You will be satisfied
Tuesday	John 4:4-13	Jesus promises living water
Wednesday	John 7:37-41	Come and drink
Thursday	Revelation 7:13-16	Never again will they hunger
Friday	Revelation 22:16-17	Whoever is thirsty, come
Saturday	Psalms 81:16	God will feed us
Sunday	John 6:51-58	Christ, the true food and drink

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“I tell you for certain that everyone who has faith in me has eternal life.”
John 6:47 (CEV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord God, thank you for the life we enjoy now and for your gift of life forever. Help us to live today with thanks and hope in our hearts. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

We thank you, God, for this our food; for life and health and every good. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with a strong faith in Jesus. May the promise of eternal life give you hope, peace and joy. Amen. (John 6:47)

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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What do you hope to be doing five, ten and twenty years from now?
- Jesus promises eternal life to everyone who has faith in him (John 6:47). How do you feel about Jesus' promise?
- What difference does Jesus' promise make in your life today?

DEVOTIONS

The circle is a common symbol for eternity. A circle has no beginning and no end. Eternal life comes from God, who has no beginning, and continues with God without end. Place a hoop on the floor or mark out a large circle. Recite John 6:47 together as a household and then have one person step inside the circle to share their thoughts or feelings about the verse. While they do so, the other household members walk around the circle. Repeat until each person has shared. Then, hold hands together around the circle and say a prayer of thanks for God's gift of life. Throughout the week, continue the practice of gathering together in a circle for prayer.

SERVICE

St. Paul reminds us that, as Christians, we work not only to provide for ourselves, but so that we “have something to share with those in need.” (Ephesians 4:28). Collect a household offering to support an organization helping the poor or needy. Have children contribute from their allowances or do chores around the house to earn money to give.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

St. Paul writes, “Don't let any evil talk come out of your mouths. Say only what will help to build others up and meet their needs. Then, what you say will help those who listen.” (Ephesians 4:29). Make an intentional effort this week to give each other compliments or words of encouragement. Set aside a minute or two for this each time you gather as a household. Pray that God will help you become more encouraging to one another.



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Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow.



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