

SEPTEMBER 6, 2015
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+ faith home

God cares for the needy.

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	Mark 7:24-37	Christ heals the Gentiles
Monday	Isaiah 29:17-21	The deaf will hear
Tuesday	Mark 9:14-27	Jesus gives a boy speech
Wednesday	Matthew 5:13-16	Let your light shine before others
Thursday	Matthew 25:31-40	The works of the righteous
Friday	Luke 10:25-37	Go and do likewise
Saturday	Isaiah 38:16-20	Thanksgiving for healing
Sunday	Mark 8:27-38	Taking up the cross

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

The Lord stands up for those who are beaten down. God gives food to hungry people. The Lord sets prisoners free. Psalm 146:7 (NIRV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord, please help us to show our faith by helping those who are in need today. Amen. (James 2:14-17)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, as we thank you for much, bless those who have little. Give us hearts that care and hands that share. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you have a faith that rests in God and is busy in serving others. Amen.

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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Describe a time when you were in need. Who helped you?
- The apostle James reminds us that having faith means that we are concerned with the needs of others (James 2:14-17). Name needs that you see in people with whom you come into contact.
- How do you provide for the needs of others?

DEVOTIONS

Gather stories from the newspaper, magazines or the Internet that describe people in need. Place these on a poster or corkboard. In your household devotion times this week, pray for these people and their situations.

SERVICE

Psalm 146:7 says that God gives food to hungry people. Make an extra meal this week to give to a friend or neighbor in need of support, such as an elderly person who lives alone, a family under stress, or a person who is ill.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Create a permanent category on your shopping list called "Items for the Needy." Whenever you shop for groceries, purchase a non-perishable food or toiletries item to contribute to your church donation chest or a local charity. Involve different household members in choosing items to purchase. Set up a special collection box in your home to store the items and pray together for God to bless those who will receive your donations.



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