

JUNE 19, 2016
FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking⁺ faith home

Christ frees us from the demons that bind us.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 8:26-39	Jesus casts out demons
Monday	Galatians 3:23-29	Equality in baptism
Tuesday	Matthew 17:14-21	Healing of a boy with a demon
Wednesday	Mark 7:26-30	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	Psalm 54	God is my help
Sunday	Luke 9:51-62	The cost of following Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

All of you are God's children because of your faith in Christ Jesus. And when you were baptized, it was as though you had put on Christ in the same way you put on new clothes. **Galatians 3:26-27 (CEV)**

SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

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

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, thank you for the gifts before us, signs of your love and mercy. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

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



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CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

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

DEVOTIONS



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, create 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 this week.

SERVICE



Send a card or a message using social media to people in your community of faith who are newly baptized. Welcome them into the community as a brother or sister in the Christian faith.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



June 19th is Father's Day. Celebrate the day by praying for and blessing father(s), grandfather(s), and other men who have cared for you. Tell them the things you appreciate about them or memories of their contributions to you and others. Then say this prayer:

Dear God, thank you for (name of father or father figure). Thank you for all the ways he loves and cares for us in your name. Bless him with strength, health, and wisdom. Help us to honor and respect him. Amen.

[For a biblical list of “God’s Guidance for Fathers and other Caregivers,” go to www.milestonesministry.org and find it on the home page.]