

AUGUST 26, 2018
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+ faith home

Jesus is the Holy One of God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 6:56-69	Many disciples desert Jesus
Monday	Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18	The tribes renew the covenant
Tuesday	Ephesians 6:10-20	The whole armor of God
Wednesday	Exodus 32:1-20	The golden calf
Thursday	Matthew 19:16-22	A young man goes away sad
Friday	1 John 2:18-28	The departure of some
Saturday	Psalms 34:15-22	The Lord is with you
Sunday	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	Authentic faith

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.” **John 6:68-69 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, the Holy One of God, no one else can give what you give. Help us to listen to your words and trust in you today and always. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

You give us bread for living, O God. Help us to always give thanks for our food. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the eyes of the Lord be on you and God’s ears be attentive to your cry.



© 2017 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.

AUGUST 26, 2018

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



taking+ faith home

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- What is something you struggle to understand or to do?
- In John 6:61 Jesus sees that some who followed him had difficulty accepting what he was saying about his relationship to God. What is something you have a hard time understanding about the Christian faith?
- Ephesians 6:10 states, “Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.” What helps you to rely on the power of God to follow Jesus?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-19.

Joshua speaks for his entire household and says to the people, “but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD” (v. 15b). Many Christians have that saying showing somewhere in their homes. It is a testimony to faith in God. However, the deeper meaning of the text needs the following verses in Joshua: “But Joshua said to the people, ‘You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God,’” (v. 19a). The deeper truth is that the people could not choose God. Sin cannot choose righteousness. Darkness cannot choose light. The beauty and hope of the Christian faith is that God establishes a relationship to us; we don’t establish a relationship to God. All our hope is in Jesus who comes to us as the Holy One of God and speaks of God’s love and mercy as the final word. How would you describe God’s relationship with you?

Pray: **Lord Jesus, the Holy One of God, no one else can give what you give. Help us to listen to your words and trust in you today and always. Amen.**

SERVICE



Ephesians 6:18 states, “Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.” One of the most important ways we serve others is by praying for them. When someone shares a personal concern with you, in addition to saying, “I will pray for you,” offer a prayer. When responding via social media to a person’s needs, in addition to stating, “I will pray for you,” write a prayer that addresses the person’s needs and God’s promise of care.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Draw or make a suit of armor out of heavy paper or cardboard and include the following pieces: belt, breastplate, shoes, shield, helmet, and sword (With younger children you can use these items to play a game of “dress-up”). Throughout the week, read the description of the “armor of God” in Ephesians 6:13-17. Note that this armor is not promoting violence but the “gospel of peace” (v. 15). Be aware of how the Holy One of God protects you with truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, and the Spirit and word of God. Take time to discuss what each part of the armor of God means to you.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org