

OCTOBER 26, 2014  
20TH SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST

We show our love for God  
by loving others.

### 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	Matthew 22:34-46	Loving God and neighbor
Monday	Deuteronomy 6:1-9	Love the Lord your God
Tuesday	Luke 10:25-37	Who is my neighbor?
Wednesday	Romans 13:8-14	Love your neighbor as yourself
Thursday	James 2:8-19	Doing right
Friday	1 John 3:16-24	Love one another
Saturday	Psalms 15	The path of the righteous
Sunday	Matthew 23:1-12	Humble yourselves

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind. This is the first and most important command. And, the second command is like the first. Love your neighbor as you love yourself.”  
Matthew 22:37-39 (NCV)

### SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, help us to love our neighbors today. Amen.  
(Matthew 22:39)

#### Mealtimes Prayer:

Heavenly Father, good and great, thanks for all that's on our plates.  
Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May God keep you strong and well. May the Lord help you to love God  
and others with all your heart. Amen.

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### CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What makes you feel loved? How do you show love to others?
- Read Matthew 22:37-39. How can you love God with your heart? With your mind? With your soul?
- What does it mean to “love others as much as you love yourself?”

### DEVOTIONS

Sometimes people asked Jesus difficult questions, and sometimes he posed hard questions to them (Matthew 22:34-36, 41). Give each household member an opportunity to write down any “hard questions” they have related to the Bible or the Christian faith. In your home devotional times this week, discuss each question. If you struggle to find answers, make a plan to find out more (e.g. borrow some books, explore the Internet, or ask your pastor or a church friend for help).

### SERVICE

In 1 Thessalonians 2:1-7, the apostle Paul writes about the ministry of the apostles in Thessalonica. Though many people were against them, they shared the Good News of Jesus Christ with boldness. This week, pray by name for the pastors and other church workers in your local community. Ask God to give them courage and to help them live good and faithful lives. Plan an act of encouragement for one of them.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The apostle Paul shared not just the good news of Jesus, but his life with the people of Thessalonica because he loved them so much (see 1 Thessalonians 2:8). We can share our lives with others and show neighborly love by welcoming people into our homes on a regular basis. A tradition of home hospitality is not only a good means of service and witness to others; it also helps to develop positive community connections and supports for household life. Look together at your household calendar. Set aside times during the coming months when you can have others join you in your home for a meal. Begin to arrange invitations to send out.



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