

OCTOBER 4, 2015
NINETEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking⁺ faith home

Jesus welcomes and blesses children.

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 10:2-16	Jesus blesses the children
Monday	Matthew 18:1-6	Welcoming a little child
Tuesday	Matthew 18:10-14	Don't look down on the little ones
Wednesday	Ephesians 6:1-4	Instructions to parents and children
Thursday	Deuteronomy 6:1-9	Impress them on your children
Friday	Deuteronomy 11:16-21	Teach them to your children
Saturday	Psalms 8	From the lips of children
Sunday	Mark 10:17-31	A rich man goes away sad

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Jesus said to his disciples, "Let the little children come to me. Don't keep them away. God's kingdom belongs to people like them."
Mark 10:14 (NIRV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, give us faith like little children, always ready to receive you and trust you. Amen. (Mark 10:15)

Mealtime Prayer:

With this food you make us strong. To you our life and love belong. Thank you, God! Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you faith like a little child. May the Lord Jesus take you into his arms and bless you. Amen. (Mark 10:13-16)

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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Who is someone you would like to meet? Why?
- Mark 10:13-16 tells us that people were bringing children to Jesus, but the disciples weren't very welcoming. What does Jesus' reaction tell us about him?
- What do you think it means to accept the kingdom of God the way a little child does?

DEVOTIONS

Give attention to blessing one another in your home this week (at bedtimes or when household members leave for work or school). Use one of the blessings below or one of the "Blessings to Give" provided each week in *Taking Faith Home*.

May the Lord cover you with peace, fill you with love, and keep you safe. Amen.

May the Lord bless you and protect you; may the Lord show you kindness and be gracious to you; may the Lord grant you favor and give you peace. Amen.

May the Lord protect you when you are awake (sign cross on forehead); and watch over you when you sleep (sign cross over eyes); that awake you may keep watch with Christ, and asleep, rest in God's peace (sign cross over heart). Amen.

SERVICE

In this week's Gospel reading, Jesus teaches about marriage. Think of a married couple whom you could encourage. Write them a note, prepare a gift for them to enjoy, or, if they have children, offer childcare so the parents can go out together.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Spend some time together as a household sharing childhood photos and memories. Play a favorite childhood game or recreate a childhood outing or experience.



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