

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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Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow.



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