

JULY 24, 2016
TENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+
faith
home

Teach us to pray.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 11:1-13	Jesus teaches about prayer
Monday	Luke 18:1-14	A parable about prayer
Tuesday	Psalms 138	Deliverance from trouble
Wednesday	1 Samuel 1:1-20	Hannah prays to the Lord
Thursday	1 Kings 18:16-46	Elijah prays to the Lord
Friday	2 Kings 19:9-36	Hezekiah prays to the Lord
Saturday	Psalms 32	Let all the godly pray
Sunday	Luke 12:13-21	Parable of the rich fool

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

So I tell you to ask and you will receive, search and you will find, knock and the door will be opened for you. **Luke 11:9 (CEV)**

SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, teach us to pray as one of your disciples. Amen. (Luke 11:1)

Mealtime Prayer:

Thank you, God, for this our food, for life and health and every good. May we—more blessed than we deserve—live less for self and more to serve. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you your daily bread and forgive you all your sins. May the Lord watch over you and save you from trouble. Amen.



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CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home or small group:

- Who do you find it easy to talk to? Why?
- Do you find prayer easy or difficult? Why?
- When Jesus' disciples wanted to learn how to pray, Jesus taught them the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4). What is your favorite part of the prayer? What part do you find it hardest to pray or to understand?

DEVOTIONS



In your home devotion times this week, focus on the different parts of the *Lord's Prayer* in turn: (1) *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.* (2) *Your kingdom come.* (3) *Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.* (4) *Give us today our daily bread.* (5) *Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.* (6) *Lead us not into temptation.* (7) *But deliver us from evil.* Talk about what each part means and how it applies to you. Use questions such as, "How do we keep God's name holy?"; "How do we help God's kingdom to come?"; "How can we show appreciation for the daily gifts God gives us?". If you have young children in your home, take this opportunity to help them memorize the prayer.

SERVICE



One way to serve others is by bringing their needs before God in prayer. What needs do you see in the lives of others around you? Make a point of praying for two or three people in particular this week. Send them a card or a message on social media to let them know that they are in your prayers.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Christian prayer expresses a trusted relationship with God that allows us to be honest, open, and able to ask for anything (See Genesis 18:20-33 and Luke 11:9). This kind of prayer life takes practice. Consider bringing these different forms of prayer into your home routine: (1) Silent prayer for reflection and openness to listen to God. (2) Pray for others. Pray for friends, family, people in leadership, and for the needs of the wider world. (3) Pray at meals. Make mealtime graces a part of your daily life. Use the weekly mealtime prayer provided here in *Taking Faith Home*. (4) Give thanks. Make a habit of offering thanks to God regularly. (5) Pray the Lord's Prayer daily. (6) Pray with abandon that is open to questions, concerns, doubts, and issues that are not easily understood or solved. Let your prayer life communicate a close relationship with God. Include in your prayers, "**Come, Holy Spirit**" (Luke 11:13).

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

