

**Daily Bible Readings:**

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Mark 6:30-34,53-56	Jesus teaches and heals
Monday	Jeremiah 50:1,4-7	God the true pasture
Tuesday	Zechariah 9:14 - 10:3	God will save the flock
Wednesday	Luke 15:1-7	Parable of the lost sheep
Thursday	2 Samuel 5:1-12	David is to shepherd Israel
Friday	Acts 20:16-38	The elders are shepherds
Saturday	Psalms 100	We are God's sheep
Sunday	John 6:1-21	Jesus feeds the five thousand

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**Scripture Verse for the Week:**

When Jesus came ashore, he saw a large crowd. He felt deep concern for them. They were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.  
 – Mark 6:34 (NIRV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

**Prayer for this Week:**

Lord, I am sheep who needs a shepherd. Please be kind to me and teach me. Amen. (Mark 6:34)

**For Throughout the Day:**

Lord Jesus, lead me today to a quiet place where I can rest with you. Amen. (Mark 6:31)

**A Blessing to Share:**

*May the Lord touch you with his love, show you his kindness, and bring you his healing. Amen. (Mark 6:34,55-56)*

**Mealtime Refrain:**

The Lord, our shepherd, is with us:  
**We will not be afraid.** (Psalm 23:4)

**Mealtime Prayer:**

*Our good shepherd feeds us. Our good shepherd leads us. Thanks be to God. Amen.*

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**Faith Talk:**

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Where is your favorite place to rest? Why?
- Jesus took his disciples away so that they could have some time alone with him and rest (Mark 6:31). When and where do you spend time with Jesus?
- How does time with Jesus refresh you?

**Devotional Practices:**

Ephesians 2 tells us that Jesus Christ came to bring people peace, both with God and with one another. Discuss the following bible verses as a household. How can they be applied in your home? Pray for God's peace in your relationships with one another.

*If possible, live in peace with everyone. Do that as much as you can. (Romans 12:18).*

*Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. (Philippians 2:1-2)*

*Don't say cruel things and don't tell lies. Do good instead of evil and try to live at peace. (Psalm 34:13-14)*

**Service:**

Many people looked to Jesus for teaching, healing and guidance. His ministry was very busy and demanding. Those in helping professions - e.g. doctors, pastors, firefighters, police - have many demands placed on them. Their work can be very tiring and sometimes stressful. Think of a way you can show your appreciation and support to someone in such a profession and plan to do so.

**Rituals and Traditions:**

Jesus took his disciples away with him to a quiet place (Mark 6:31-32). Spend some time together in silence as a household this week. Light a candle to represent the presence of Jesus with you. Focus together on the candle in your silence. Then share with each other the thoughts that came to you during this time.

FOUR KEYS FOR THE HOME

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