

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 10:17-31	A rich man goes away sad
Monday	1 Chronicles 29:10-20	All wealth comes from God
Tuesday	Job 31:16-34, 38-40	Job speaks of helping the poor
Wednesday	Matthew 6:19-24	Don't trust in earthly riches
Thursday	Acts 4:32 – 5:10	Ananias and Sapphira
Friday	1 Timothy 6:3-10,17-19	Don't put your hope in wealth
Saturday	Psalms 49:16-20	Seek understanding, not riches
Sunday	Mark 10:35-45	The Son of Man came to serve

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Scripture Verse for the Week:

God's word is alive and working and is sharper than a double-edged sword. It cuts all the way into us, where the soul and the spirit are joined, to the center of our joints and bones. And it judges the thoughts and feelings in our hearts.
– Hebrew 4:12 (NCV)

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

Prayer for this Week:

Lord God, please keep me from putting money and possessions ahead of you and your will. Amen. (Mark 10:21-25)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord, teach me to use wisely all the time I have. Amen. (Psalm 90:12)

A Blessing to Share:

May God's favor rest on you and on all you do. May his love satisfy all your needs and fill you with joy. Amen. (Psalm 90:14,17)

Mealtime Refrain:

Let us come before the throne of God with confidence:
There we can receive mercy and grace to help us. (Heb. 4:16)

Mealtime Prayer:

*Lord, help us share with others that which we receive;
And gladly give with grateful hearts to those who are in need.
Amen.*



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Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What is something you find hard to do?
- Jesus met a rich young man who wanted to have eternal life (Mark 10:17-27). Can good behavior or money get us into heaven? Why?
- What "impossible" thing has Jesus done to save you? How can you respond with your possessions and your time?

Devotional Practices:

Hebrews 4:12 says that the word of God is "alive and working." Gather together various versions of the Bible. In your household devotions time this week, look up various verses in each of these Bibles, noting what is similar and what is different. Talk about how to read the Bible and aids that are available to help us do that (commentaries, concordances etc.). Share your favorite Bible verses with one another.

Service:

Find out more about the work of Bible translators e.g. from Lutheran Bible Translators (www.lbt.org), Wycliffe Bible Translators (www.wycliffe.org) or the Bible Society (www.biblesociety.org). Write a letter of encouragement to a Bible translator, organize a fundraiser to support Bible translation, or make a donation.

Rituals and Traditions:

Select a Bible that will serve as your "Household Bible". Paste photos of household members on the front and back covers, or decorate with your own drawings of Bible events. Highlight the favorite Bible verses and Bible stories of different household members, as well as wedding and confirmation texts. Place the Bible in a visible place in your home, as a reminder of the central place of God's word in your life together.

Parent Toolbox: Responding to Money Worries

Money is a problem in families, and most of us don't have as much as we want. Families are often more focused on money problems than they would like to be, and financial stresses and pressures are real and concerning. It is an even bigger problem, however, when our concerns about money, or our efforts to make it, crowd out God's place in our lives. Moreover, our children are influenced spiritually by the ways we talk about and use money. Our values and attitudes around money and possessions invariably shape theirs. When we have money concerns, God first calls us to pray – to take our worries to him, asking him to provide for us. He then calls us to be faithful – to continue to give to him our worship and the first-fruits of our income. (If we tradeoff God and money we will always lose out.) On the other hand, when we are blessed with money we are called to praise and thank God, and consider how we might give from what we have received to serve God and others.

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