

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	Luke 9:51-62	The cost of following Jesus
Monday	Luke 9:18-27	Following Jesus
Tuesday	Luke 14:25-34	Considering the cost
Wednesday	Luke 5:27-31	Levi follows Christ
Thursday	Matthew 13:1-8	A crop is produced
Friday	Ephesians 5:1-10	The fruit of the light
Saturday	Psalm 92	The fruit of the righteous
Sunday	Luke 10:1-11,16-20	Jesus sends out the Seventy-Two

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Scripture Verses for the Week:

But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. – Galatians 5:22-23a (NIRV)

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

Prayer for this Week:

Lord Jesus, I want to work for you. Please help me to let go of all the things that hold me back. Amen. (Luke 9:62)

For Throughout the Day:

Holy Spirit, produce good fruit in me today. Amen. (Galatians 5:22-23)

A Blessing to Share:

May God's Spirit be at work in you, producing fruits of love. Amen.

Mealtime Refrain:

Christ has set us free:

To serve each other with love. (Galatians 5:13)

Mealtime Prayer:

Thank you, Lord, for the fruit of the earth. Produce in us the fruits of your Spirit, so that our lives are ripe with love. Amen.

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SCRIPTURE

Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What is something that you “put off” doing? Why?
- Jesus asked people to follow him, but sometimes they put it off, saying “I need to do this or that first” (Luke 9:59-61). Is it hard for you to follow Jesus sometimes? If so, in what ways?
- If Jesus asked you to move somewhere else to do his will, what would be hardest for you to leave behind?

Devotional Practices:

Make a “tree” shape out of cardboard or color paper and cut out “fruit” shapes marked with the nine fruits of the Spirit mentioned in Galatians 5. In your home devotion times this week talk about and pray for these fruits in your lives. As you do, place the fruit shapes on your “tree”.

Service:

Some followers of Jesus today still give up “home, family, and means of income” to share him with others. Do you know of anyone who has (e.g. missionaries in other countries)? If not, ask your pastor or church friends to suggest someone to you. Find their address and write a note of encouragement and thanks to them.

Rituals and Traditions:

As a fun household activity, work together to make a fruit salad. Buy a selection of different fruits and work together to peel and slice them up. As you enjoy eating the salad, affirm household members for the fruits of the Spirit you see revealed in them e.g. “I saw the fruit of love in you when ...” or “I saw you being patient when ...”

Parent Toolbox: Some ABC’s of Parenting Children

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|--|---|
| Always entrust them to God’s care. | Quicken your interest in their spirituality. |
| Bring them to worship and child/youth ministry activities. | Remember their needs. |
| Challenge them to high goals in life. | Share the Gospel with them. |
| Delight in their achievements. | Teach them to work and be responsible. |
| Exalt the Lord in their presence. | Understand they need you, even when they are older. |
| Frown on evil. | Value their uniqueness and giftedness. |
| Give them abundant love. | Wean them from bad company. |
| Hear their problems. | eXpect them to obey. |
| Ignore not their childish fears. | Yearn for God’s best for them. |
| Joyfully accept their apologies. | Zealously guide them in Biblical truths. |
| Keep their confidences. | |
| Live a good example before them. | |
| Make them your best friends. | |
| Never ignore their endless questions. | |
| Open your home to their friends. | |
| Pray for them by name daily. | |

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