



TAKING FAITH home

1 February 2015
EPIPHANY 4B

THIS WEEK'S THEME:

Jesus is our
great teacher.

mealtime prayer

The Lord is kind and merciful. He provides food for those who respect him. Thanks be to God! Amen
PSALM 111:4-5

verse for the week

The people were amazed at his teaching, for he taught with real authority - quite unlike the teachers of religious law.
MARK 1:22

blessing

May God teach you his ways. May you learn of his love and grace, and live in it always. Amen.

FAITH 5



share your highs and lows of the day or discuss some of the questions from the **FOURKEYS** Faith Talk.



read and highlight a passage of scripture in your Bible. 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 1:21-28	Jesus teaches in the synagogue
Monday	Luke 2:22-40	Jesus presented in the temple
Tuesday	Matthew 7:24-29	Jesus teaches with authority
Wednesday	John 8:27-31	Holding to Jesus' teachings
Thursday	John 14:23-26	Obeying Jesus' teachings
Friday	Acts 17:16-32	Paul teaches about Jesus
Saturday	Job 36:22-26	Who is a teacher like him?
Sunday	Mark 1:29-39	Jesus heals many people



talk about how the Bible passage relates to your highs and lows or discuss some of the ideas in **FOURKEYS** Devotional Practices.



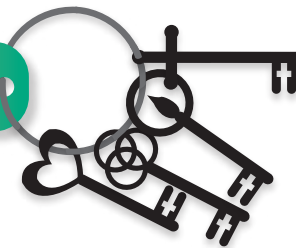
pray for your highs and lows, for your family, and for the world.



bless one another using this week's blessing or make up your own.

FOUR KEYS

for the Home



1. Faith Talk

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a teacher you liked and respected. What did you learn from them?
- Read Mark 1:21-22. Why do you think people were amazed at Jesus' teachings?
- What do you find amazing about Jesus? What do you wish to learn from Jesus?



2. Devotional Practices

If you have a household member who is a student, have a time of prayer and blessing for them. Gather around them, place your hands on their head, back or shoulders and say these words:

Heavenly Father, be with _____ in his/her studies. Keep _____ safe from anything that would harm him/her in body, mind or spirit. Help _____ to gain enjoyment from learning and to learn well. Help _____ to be happy at school and to have good friendships. Help _____ to show your love to others at school and to do what is right. And help _____ to remember that you are with him/her everyday, whatever happens; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



3. Service

In your household prayer times this week, include prayer for teachers, including those who teach others about Christ in seminaries, schools and churches. Think of a teacher you are particularly thankful for. Phone them with a word of encouragement, write them a letter or send them an appreciation card.



4. Rituals and Traditions

February 2 is the Church festival day for the Presentation of the Lord. The festival recalls that forty days after his birth, Jesus was presented at the temple in Jerusalem (Luke 2:22-40). This festival has also come to be known as Candlemas because of the tradition of blessing candles on this day for use in churches and homes throughout the year. This is associated with the Simeon's words about Jesus being "a light to reveal God to the nations" (Luke 2:32). Choose a new candle to light as part of your home devotional gatherings in the coming year. Say this prayer together: **Lord God, thank you for giving us Jesus as a bright light in our lives. Bless us as we gather around this candle this year. May it remind us that Jesus is with us. Amen.**

Light the candle and place it in an open window for the evening ... but don't forget to blow it out before you go to bed!



Developed by Pastor Greg Priebbenow (St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bundaberg) in partnership with Lutheran Church of Australia, Grow Ministries www.growministries.org.au

