

# TAKING FAITH HOME

16th December 2012



the *faith*5 faith acts in the home



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



**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.

<b>Sunday</b>	Luke 3:7-18	One more powerful is coming
<b>Monday</b>	Luke 13:1-9	Jesus calls for repentance
<b>Tuesday</b>	Acts 2:1,36-41	Peter calls for repentance
<b>Wednesday</b>	Acts 13:16-31,38-39	Paul preaches about John
<b>Thursday</b>	Acts 17:22-31	Paul speaks of repentance
<b>Friday</b>	John 15:1-8	Producing fruit in Christ
<b>Saturday</b>	Psalms 1	The fruit of the righteous
<b>Sunday</b>	Luke 1:39-55	Mary visits Elizabeth



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



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



**bless** one another using the following blessing or make up your own.

## mealtime prayer

Lord Jesus, bless our home with peace this Advent.  
As we enjoy your gifts, make us ready for your coming again. Amen.

## verse for the week

Do not worry about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need, always giving thanks. And God's peace, which is so great we cannot understand it, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7 (NCV)

## blessing

May the Lord Jesus watch over your heart and your mind and give you his peace. Amen.

# FOURKEYS

for practising faith



Discuss in your household or small group:

- What makes you anxious? Share about a recent worry of yours.
- Read Philippians 4:6-7. What do these verses say we should do when we feel worried?
- The apostle Paul says that "the Lord is near". How can knowing that Jesus is near help us in times of worry?



Use this simple liturgy for lighting your third Advent candle this week:

**LEADER:** The prophet Isaiah said that Jesus would be the Prince of Peace. Our second Advent candle is the candle of peace. As we light it, let us celebrate the peace that Jesus gives us.

(The first and second and third candles are lit)

**ALL:** Thank you, Lord Jesus, for giving us peace. Fill our home with peace this Christmas. Amen.



Make the gift of service one of your Christmas gifts this year. Talk together about acts of service that could be offered to different household members e.g. doing the dishes, making a bed, helping prepare a meal, giving a massage, time spent gardening. Have each person select an act of service they could offer to each other household member (these need not be the same). Write these down on index cards and collate booklets of redeemable "service vouchers" to give to members of the household at Christmas time.



Set aside time during this week to read one or two favourite Christmas-related stories as a household, share past Christmas memories, and sing Christmas carols. Sit around your meal table or Christmas tree, light a candle, and play soft Christmas music in the background. You might also enjoy a cup of hot chocolate or cocoa and some edible Christmas treats.



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