

TAKING FAITH HOME



2nd 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.

Sunday	Luke 21:25-36	The coming of the Son of Man
Monday	Daniel 7:13-14	A vision of the Son of Man
Tuesday	Joel 3:14-18	The day of the Lord is near
Wednesday	Micah 4:1-7	The Lord's coming reign of peace
Thursday	Luke 17:22-37	The day of the Son of Man
Friday	Romans 13:11-14	Our salvation is near
Saturday	Psalms 90	Prayer for life from God
Sunday	Luke 3:1-6	Prepare the way of the Lord



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.

mealt ime prayer

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

verse for the week

(Jesus said) "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."

LUKE 21:33 (NIV)

blessing

May the Lord help you to stand strong in your faith, so that you are ready when Jesus comes again.

LUKE 21:36 & 1 THESS. 3:13

FOURKEYS

for practising faith



Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you were really looking forward to something.
- Jesus tells us that one day he will come again in glory. How do you imagine his return? What can we do to "watch" for him to return?



The Advent Wreath is a great Advent home devotional tool. Set up four purple or blue candles with a white candle in the centre. Light one candle during the first week of Advent, another during the second week and so on. On Christmas Day, light the white candle in celebration of the birth of Christ. Use this simple liturgy for lighting your first Advent candle this week:

LEADER: The prophet Isaiah said that Jesus would be the hope of the nations. Our first Advent candle is the candle of hope. As we light it, let us celebrate the hope that Jesus gives us. *(The candle is lit)*

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



Make some Christmas decorations using various craft materials (cardboard, coloured paper, glue, glitter etc.). Give these away to neighbours and friends as a sign of Christmas cheer.



Have you set up and decorated your household Christmas Tree? When this is done, take some time for a Christmas Tree Blessing. Gather round the tree and use the following ritual.

LEADER: This tree is a blessing to our home. It reminds us of all that is beautiful, and of God's goodness. It stands in our home as a tree of light, a sign of Jesus' presence with us as the Light of the World. He was the shoot that grew from the stump of Jesse to become a branch that gives us shelter.

READER: Jeremiah 33:15-16

ALL: God of all Creation, we thank you for this tree. Bless us as we gather around it. May its lights light up our hearts with your love, joy and peace, and may the gifts placed under it remind us of the great gift of your Son Jesus. Amen.

Finish the ritual with a "countdown" towards the lighting of your tree. Have each household member point out their favorite Christmas Tree decoration.



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