

TAKING FAITH HOME

13th January 2013



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 3:15-17, 21-22	The baptism of Jesus
Monday	Isaiah 42:1-9	The Lord's servant
Tuesday	Ezekiel 36:24-28	God will make you clean
Wednesday	Acts 2:14, 22-41	Many are baptised in Jesus' name
Thursday	Romans 6:3-11	Baptized into Christ's death
Friday	1 John 5:6-12	The witness about Jesus Christ
Saturday	Psalms 106:1-12	God saves through water
Sunday	John 2:1-11	The wedding at Cana



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, your children gather in your name. Bless our table and our sharing around it.

Amen.

verse for the week

"Don't be afraid, because I have saved you. I have called you by name, and you are mine."

ISAIAH 43:1 (NCV)

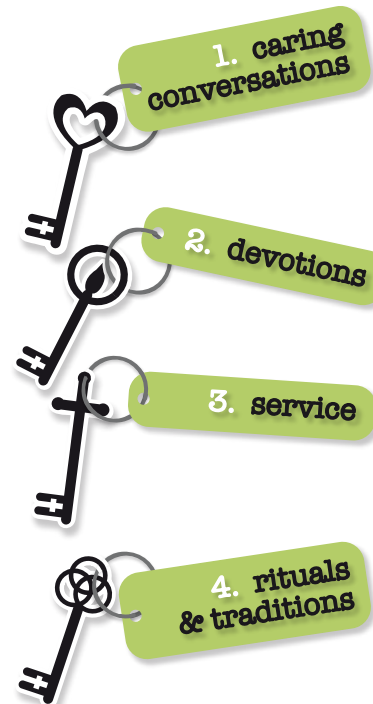
blessing

You are a baptised child of God, and he loves you dearly. May he make you strong and bless you with peace. Amen.

LUKE 3:22 & PSALM 29:11

FOURKEYS

for practising faith



Discuss in your household or small group:

- What do you know or remember about the day you were baptised?
- What did God do for you through your baptism?
- What does it mean to you that you are baptised?

As part of your household devotion times this week, say together the church's baptismal creed, the Apostle's Creed. Talk together about what each part of the creed means.

Have household members decorate cards to send to their Baptismal Sponsors or Godparents. Use these to say "thank you" for their support and prayers over the years.

Do you celebrate baptismal birthdays in your home? Here are some ideas for developing a practice of baptismal remembrance:

- 1 List the baptism dates of each household member on your home calendar.
- 2 Celebrate each baptismal birthday with a special meal to honour the baptised person. Invite godparents or other faith mentors to attend.
- 3 Give faith-related gifts on baptismal birthdays.
- 4 Ask Godparents to write a letter to their Godchild each year. Keep these in a special book.
- 5 Each year take photos of the baptised person at your church font. Ask your Pastor to give the person a special blessing.

From Martin Luther's Small Catechism:

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

Baptism is not water only, but it is water used together with God's Word and by his command. (Matthew 28:19)

WHAT BENEFITS DOES GOD GIVE IN BAPTISM?

In baptism God forgives sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe what he has promised. (Mark 16:16)

WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN FOR DAILY LIVING?

It means that our sinful self, with all its evil deeds and desires, should be drowned through daily repentance, and that day after day a new self should arise to live with God in righteousness and purity forever (Romans 6:4).



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