

# TAKING FAITH HOME



3rd February 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.

<b>Sunday</b>	Luke 4:21-30	The prophet Jesus is rejected
<b>Monday</b>	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	A prophet like Moses is promised
<b>Tuesday</b>	Matthew 7:24-29	Jesus' teaching has authority
<b>Wednesday</b>	Matthew 13:53-58	Jesus rejected at Nazareth
<b>Thursday</b>	Luke 6:20-26	Rejected disciples are blessed
<b>Friday</b>	1 Peter 2:4-11	Rejected by people but chosen by God
<b>Saturday</b>	Psalms 56	In God I trust
<b>Sunday</b>	Luke 9:28-43	Jesus is transfigured



**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, give us hearts that are grateful for all your kindness. As you love us, lead us to love others. Amen.

## verse for the week

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous, it does not brag, and it is not proud. Love is not rude, is not selfish, and does not get upset with others. Love does not count up wrongs that have been done. Love takes no pleasure in evil but rejoices over the truth. Love patiently accepts all things. It always trusts, always hopes, and always endures.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7 (NCV)

## blessing

May God bless you with his love. May his unfailing love flow through you to others. Amen.

# FOURKEYS

for practising faith

Discuss in your household or small group:



- What makes you feel loved? How do you show love to others?
- In 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a, Paul gives 16 characteristics of true love. What are they? Which do you think is the toughest to live out?
- How does God's love match up with what Paul says about love in these verses?



In your household devotion times this week use 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a to reflect on the love shown in your home. Ask household members to recall and name ways in which others in your home have loved them e.g. "You showed me love by being kind when ...". "You showed me love by patient when ..." "You showed me love by forgiving me when ...".



Think of people outside of your household who show love to you. Make up heart-shaped cards and write on each one short sentence from St. Paul's letter on love - for example, on the front you could write, "Love is kind", and on the back, "Thank you for being so kind to me." . On the inside of your cards write short personal notes, thanking these people for their love. Plan a way to deliver your cards.



On February 2nd each year the Christian church remembers the Presentation of our Lord – Jesus' presentation at the temple forty days after his birth (see Luke 2:22-38). This festival has traditionally been called CANDLEMAS, involving candlelight processions and the blessing and distribution of candles. Simeon's words referring to Jesus as "a light to reveal God to the nations" provide the Biblical inspiration for this. Prepare a home candlelight procession. Have two household members play the parts of Mary and Joseph, carrying a baby doll representing baby Jesus. Make a path through your home to your usual place of home worship and a waiting Simeon. In candlelight have Simeon take the "child" and read aloud the words of the Canticum of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32). Then use the following prayer, lighting four candles where indicated (\*).

We thank you, God, for sending us light to help us see in so many different ways. We thank you for the light of the flame that turns darkness into light.\* We thank you for the light of the sun, which divides night from day.\* We thank you for the words of the Bible, which show us the right way.\* Above all we thank you for Jesus, who is the light of the world.\* Please help us shine as lights for you, so that others too can see your love and grace. Amen

Finish with a candlelit meal or snack, or with a candlelit story reading time.



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