

TAKING FAITH HOME

16th June 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 7:36 - 8:3	A woman anoints Jesus' feet
Monday	2 Chronicles 30:1-12	The people ask for forgiveness
Tuesday	2 Chronicles 30:13-27	The people are forgiven
Wednesday	Matthew 18:21-35	A parable about forgiveness
Thursday	John 8:1-11	Jesus forgives a woman
Friday	Luke 5:17-26	Jesus forgives sins and heals
Saturday	Psalms 130	Prayer for mercy
Sunday	Luke 8:26-39	Jesus casts out demons



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

God so gracious, God so great, we thank you God for cup and plate. Amen.

verse for the week

I was put to death on the cross with Christ, and I do not live anymore—it is Christ who lives in me. I still live in my body, but I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself to save me.

GALATIANS 2:20 (NCV)

blessing

May God hear your prayers and protect you. May he give you joy and gladness. Amen.

PSALM 5:1-3,11-12

FOURKEYS

for practising faith



1. caring conversations

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Remember a time when someone forgave you. How did you feel?
- Is it sometimes hard to forgive others? Why?
- What does God's gift of forgiveness through Jesus mean to you?
- Jesus said a person who has been forgiven much loves much. How does God's forgiveness affect your relationships with others?



2. devotions

When you gather for your home devotion times this week, invite each household member to write down on one side of a piece of paper a sin they would like to confess to God. Then read Psalm 32:5 and have each person draw a cross on the other side of the paper to indicate that their sins have been "covered" by the death of Jesus. Set the pieces of paper aside. At the end of the week have a symbolic burning or shredding of your confession slips, thanking God for his amazing grace.



3. service

Ask each household member to name a person outside of the home who has shown them love. Plan a way to show them love in return.



4. rituals & traditions

Jesus said that the woman who anointed his feet "loved much" because she had been forgiven much (Luke 7:47). In response to God's forgiveness, declare it to be "LOVE MUCH" week in your home. Brainstorm a list of ways you can show love to one another. Write these on a poster to display. As the week goes by, talk about your progress. Encourage one another in using "love much" word and actions.

ParentWord - Forgiveness in Household Relationships

While households have great potential to be communities of deep love and care they are also prone to shared hurt and conflict. In homes people sin, and are sinned against. For relationships to stay healthy, the practice of genuine forgiveness is essential. Asking for and offering forgiveness are sacred habits. Try using these five steps in your home:

- Set aside time to discuss the issue – best done when emotions have cooled.
- Identify the problem or harmful event. Distinguish problem from person.
- Explore the pains and concerns on both sides. Encourage listening.
- Invite the offender to ask for forgiveness, and the offended to forgive.
- Talk about how to avoid the problem/issue recurring. Resolve to change with God's help.



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