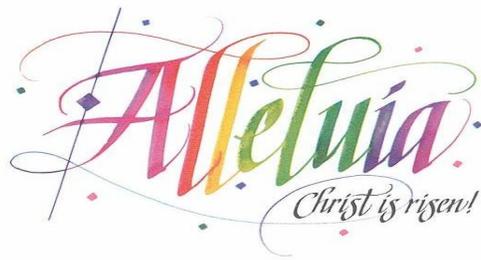


God's Story Our Story

April 16 2017



5 simple steps to help bring your household closer to God and each other



SHARE
your highs and lows

Light a candle to help you focus this time as “God time.” **Share your highs and lows of the week**



READ
a Bible verse or story

A verse for the week:

The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Luke 24:5

If your household includes younger children you may want to use a children's Bible story book. If the assigned reading is not in your storybook, just choose another.

Sunday: *Empty Tomb (Easter)*, Luke 24:1-12

Monday: *Jesus Appears to His Disciples*, Luke 24:36-53

Tuesday: *Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas*, Acts 1:12-26

Wednesday: *The Holy Spirit*, Acts 2:1-13

Thursday: *Early Christians*, Acts 2:14-47

Friday: *Peter Heals a Crippled Beggar*, Acts 3:1-10

Saturday: *Peter Speaks in Solomon's Portico*, Acts 3:11-26

Talk about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows. More discussion questions are on the back side.



TALK
about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows



PRAY
for one another's highs and lows

A prayer for the week:

Risen Lord, you have shown that death could not defeat life. Pour the joy of your resurrection into our hearts, so that it overflows into our lives. In the name of the risen Christ, Amen.

Make the sign of the cross and say, **“Christ is risen!”** response: **“Christ is risen indeed!”**



BLESS
one another

More resources for being the church at home this week

It's been a grueling week for the followers of Jesus, but still they faithfully carry out the rituals due to the dead. How could these grieving women have known that their anointing oils would not be needed, for the best reason imaginable?

A meal time prayer:

Loving God, we give you all the praise for all you have blessed us with. We pray right now for all those who are hungry and that you would bless them with food for their bodies and their souls. Amen.

More questions for conversation:

The disciples and women are shocked to see that Jesus is not in the tomb, even though he told them it would happen. If you need a reminder that God keeps his promises, read Romans 4:21: “And being fully assured that what God has promised, he was able to perform.”

Easter marks the most significant event in a Christian's life. Who could you share this news with?

How will you honor Christ today?

Ideas for putting faith in action:

By acting on what we learn we make God's word come alive.

Sing your favorite Easter hymn every morning when you wake up. If you don't have a favorite Easter hymn, sing whatever favorite song reminds you that Jesus is alive!

Contact a local nursing home and ask if there is anything you can do to serve its residents. Perhaps you can participate in an activity or take a resident outside for some fresh air.

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