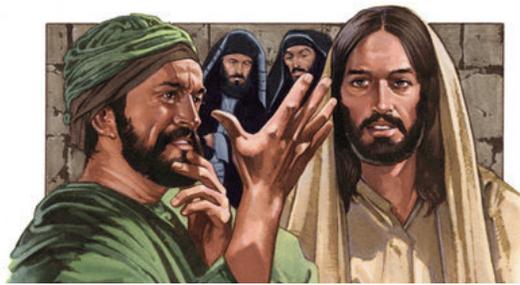


God's Story Our Story

Jan. 29, 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: Then Jesus said to them, “I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to destroy it?” —Luke 6:9.

Sunday: *Healing on the Sabbath*, Luke 6:1-16

Monday: *Jesus Teaches and Heals*, Luke 6:17-26

Tuesday: *Love for Enemies*, Luke 6:27-30

Wednesday: *Love for Enemies*, Luke 6:31-38

Thursday: *Love for Enemies*, Luke 6:39-42

Friday: *A Tree and Its Fruit*, Luke 6:43-49

Saturday: *Jesus Speaks in Parables*, Luke 8:1-16

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.



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

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



PRAY
for one another's highs and lows

A prayer for the week:
Lord, thank you for giving us a day of rest. Help us to be renewed, refreshed and to rediscover our faith in you. May it be a time to share everything good with one another. Amen.



BLESS
one another

Make the sign of the cross
“Go with the power of God in you”

More resources for being the church at home this week

And so it begins: Jesus' ongoing quarrel with the Pharisees, expert keepers of the law. What could be more frustrating than a wildly popular evangelist with a habit of making his own rules in the service of ultimate love?

A meal time prayer:

As we gather around this thankful table, give us our daily bread, O God. Amen.

More questions for conversation:

1. Jesus shared a new understanding of how to use the Sabbath. It is not only a day of rest from work, but a time to engage others in service. Jesus then healed a man with a withered hand. How do you take a break from work? Do you understand your time spent with others as holy moments?
2. What laws in your community have been created to serve people? What laws have been created for people to serve? Where are freedoms limited and where are they granted? What might you do to ensure freedom to all?
3. When and for what have you been forgiven? Was forgiveness offered unconditionally or with limitations? Have you let go of the burden of guilt or shame? How might you let go of shame and live in the unconditional forgiveness of Jesus?

Ideas for putting faith in action:

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

On Sunday (or a different day), take a true Sabbath. Rest, pray, and enjoy your family, be in service to one another.

Pray for an enemy every day this week – not that they become better people – pray that God will bless them. At the end of the week, notice how, if at all, your attitude toward them has changed.

Portions of this devotion material from Clergy Stuff. Used with permission. Find more at ClergyStuff.com

New Revised Standard version Bible © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA used by permission. All rights reserved.