

OCTOBER 30, 2016
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking+
faith
home

No one is beyond the grace of God. Jesus calls all people into relationship with him.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 19:1-10	Jesus visits Zacchaeus
Monday	Matthew 9:9-13	Jesus has come to call sinners
Tuesday	2 Thessalonians 1:1-12	Greeting and thanksgiving
Wednesday	Romans 5:6-11	Christ died for the ungodly
Thursday	1 Timothy 1:12-17	The Lord's grace to Paul
Friday	Acts 10:34-43	God does not show favoritism
Saturday	Psalms 32:1-7	The joy of forgiveness
Sunday	Luke 20:27-38	Jesus speaks of the resurrection

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"The Son of Man came to look for and to save people who are lost."

Luke 19:10 (CEV)

SAY, PRAY, AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear Lord, just as you sought out Zacchaeus, we give you thanks for seeking us day by day with your saving love. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed. Make our home your dwelling place, full of love and faith and grace. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be kind to you and bless you with peace. Amen.
(2 Thessalonians 1:2)



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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Talk about a time when you felt as though you did not belong to a group you wanted to be part of.
- In the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10), Jesus says that this tax collector is not an outsider, he belongs with the people. When have you included someone who may have felt unwanted?
- Psalm 32:1 identifies those who are happy or blessed as those who are forgiven by God. How is this different from how people typically want to be happy today?

DEVOTIONS

It is said that "judicious praise is to children what sun is to flowers." The apostle Paul began his second letter to the Thessalonians by strongly encouraging them in their lives of faith (2 Thessalonians 1:3). As part of your home devotional time this week, encourage one another by completing these statements:

"One way I see you growing as a child of God is ..."

"One way I see God at work in you is ..."

"One way I see you showing love for others is ..."

Say prayers of thanks to God for one another.

SERVICE

Zacchaeus was committed to giving half of his possessions away to the poor. Commit this week to making a donation towards the needs of the poor in your community or elsewhere in the world. Here are some suggestions:

- Donate items that are still in good condition to a local charity store
- Forgo a household activity and donate the savings to an aid organization
- Purchase food to donate to a local food pantry
- Organize a fundraiser and give the proceeds to a charity serving the disadvantaged

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Jesus came as a guest to the house of Zacchaeus and brought salvation to his home (Luke 19:5-9). As a sign and reminder of Christ's presence in your home, set an extra place at your meal table this week. When you gather for meals, share when and where you have seen the presence and activity of Jesus during the day. Talk about what it means for Jesus to be part of your lives.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org