

NOVEMBER 5, 2017
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking† faith home

Greatness comes through serving others.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 23:1-12	Humble yourselves
Monday	Matthew 18:1-4	Become like little children
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 2:5-13	Paul's ministry
Wednesday	2 Chronicles 34:14-32	King Josiah humbles himself
Thursday	Luke 1:46-55	Mary's song
Friday	1 Peter 5:1-7	God gives grace to the humble
Saturday	Psalms 43	A prayer for protection
Sunday	Matthew 25:1-13	Parable of the wise and foolish girls

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Whoever is the greatest should be the servant of the others. If you put yourself above others, you will be put down. But if you humble yourself, you will be honored. **Matthew 23:11-12 (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, you humbled yourself as a servant of all. Lead us to be your humble servants of others. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, by your grace we eat and drink, by your grace we live. May we say thanks to you this day by how we serve and give. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you a servant's heart, and bring you joy through serving others.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK
Make Me a Servant

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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Who is the most important person you have ever met? What made (or makes) that person important?
- Read Matthew 23:11-12. What makes people "great" according to Jesus?
- Jesus put all his followers on the same level (Matthew 23:8). What difference should this make to how we see and treat one another?

DEVOTIONS



Read: 1 Thessalonians 2:5-13.

Here Paul gives a clear example of how faith is formed by the power of God's word through personal, trusted relationships. He and others were "like a father with his children." Earlier he had described themselves in the intimate language of a mother nursing children. In these very personal relationships they served as models of the faith and offered the people encouragement to "lead a life worthy of God." Recall people who have served as examples and encouragers of the faith to you. Consider people who may be encouraged by your life of faith as well. Offer prayers of thanksgiving for these people in your life.

Conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

SERVICE



Jesus said, "The greatest among you will be your servant." Let your home chores become acts of service to others. Having a clean home offers an important example of gracious hospitality to others. Consider other ways to be an intentional servant of others.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Psalms 43:3 says, "Send your light and your truth to guide me." For a fun activity this week, go on a night walk by flashlight. Afterward, talk about what it means to be dependent on light to see your way clearly and to guide your path in safety. Then talk about how God leads and guides us all the days of our lives.



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