



The Word @ Home

Week of July 26, 2020

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Gathering

Begin your devotions by doing something to mark this time as “God time,” like lighting a candle or singing a song.

Prayer of the Week

God, your kingdom is like so many things, yet it is also beyond what we can imagine. Please continue to give us glimpses of this reality where your love reigns supreme. Amen.

Daily Check-in

Jesus describes the kingdom of heaven with many images. Choose one or more images to describe your day.

Daily Bible Readings

Read aloud the Daily Bible Reading on the right. If your household includes younger children, use a child-friendly Bible. You might find that the children’s Bible you are using may not include the story selected. Read to your kids anyway. Just pick a story!

Discussion Starters

Jesus uses the images of a mustard seed, yeast, hidden treasure, valuable pearl, and a fishing net to describe God’s kingdom. What images, here or elsewhere, do you find most helpful in understanding God and the kingdom?

Praying Together

Pray for each person in turn, placing a hand on their shoulder or head, with their permission.

Blessing for the Week

End your devotions by tracing a cross on each person’s forehead or hand with their permission and saying: **God’s love is in and around you.**

Sunday

Read Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Parables of the kingdom. What image do you see when you think of a kingdom? How do you think God’s kingdom compares to this?

Monday

Read James 3:13-18

Humility, not selfishness. How can you act wisely this week according to the list in verse 17?

Tuesday

Read Ephesians 6:10-18

The armor of God. Pretend to put on a set of armor. How can you protect yourself against selfish thoughts and actions?

Wednesday

Read Mark 4:30-34

The parable of the mustard seed. Find a very small seed (perhaps a spice) or pretend to hold one in your hand as you listen to this parable.

Thursday

Read Philippians 4:10-15

Content in all circumstances. Have you felt content in a bad situation? How did, or can, you do that?

Friday

Read Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

God is compassionate. Close your eyes as you listen to this psalm. What images come to mind?

Saturday

Read Matthew 7:7-11

Ask, seek, knock. What is one good gift that you can use to bless others? Pray together for those.

This free devotional resource is based on our *Living the Word: God’s Word @ Home (RCL)* home educational resource and our *Living the Word: Cross+Gen Education (RCL)* congregational curriculum. If you find this short resource useful, ask your congregation’s leader to learn more about these other products at SpiritAndTruthPublishing.com!