

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	John 13:31-35	Love one another
Monday	Mark 12:28-34	The greatest commandment
Tuesday	John 15:9-17	Remaining in Christ's love
Wednesday	1 John 4:7-21	God's love and ours
Thursday	Matthew 5:43-48	Love your enemies
Friday	Acts 2:42-47, 4:32-35	The early Christians
Saturday	Leviticus 19:11-18,32-33	Love your neighbor
Sunday	John 14:23-29	The sending of the Counselor

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Scripture Verses for the Week:

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." - John 13:34-35 (NLT)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayer for this Week:

Lord, thank you for your love. Help me to love others. Amen. (John 13:34-35)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord, please help me to see others through your eyes, and to share your Good News with them. Amen. (Acts 11:12-14)

A Blessing to Share:

May God dwell with you and be your God, now and forever. Amen. (Revelation 21:3)

Mealtime Refrain:

Christ has loved us: **Let us love one another.** (John 13:34)

Mealtime Prayer:

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies;
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies;
God of all, to you we raise, a prayer of grateful praise. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE

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SCRIPTURE

Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What is the most wonderful place you have ever visited? Why?
- God gave the apostle John a vision of a new heaven and a new earth (Revelation 21:1). What do you imagine they will be like?
- Read Revelation 21:2-4. How do you feel about this promise?

Devotional Practices:

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 gives a wonderful description of love. In your home devotional times this week, work together on a definition of love which applies to your household e.g.

*Love is being patient when someone else is using the bathroom.
Love is being kind when someone else is hurt or feeling sad.*

Pray together for God's help to show his love to one another.

Service:

Jesus tells us that we show ourselves to be his disciples by the way we love our fellow Christians. Decide on one act of love you can show to a fellow member of your church (e.g. an invitation to your home, a note of encouragement, an act of service). Work together to carry it out.

Rituals and Traditions:

Talk together as a household about what makes one another feel loved (e.g. a hug, an act of service, a kind word or note, a gift). Write up a list of these and post these in a prominent place. Focus this week on performing acts of love towards one another. As the week progresses, monitor your progress.

Parent Toolbox:

In his book *The Five Love Languages of Children*, Gary Chapman explains that children give and receive love in different ways. What says "I love you" to one child may not speak as powerfully to one another. Chapman suggests that there are five particular love languages that parents need to be aware of: **Words of affirmation; Quality time; Gifts; Acts of service; Physical touch.**

The following can help you determine your children's primary love languages:

- Observe how your child expresses love to you.
- Observe how your child expresses love to others.
- Listen to what your child requests most often.
- Listen to your child's most frequent complaints.
- Give your child a choice between two options and observe which they choose.

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