



Growing FAITH at home

2 February 2020

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Jesus teaches us about the ways of God.

Caring Conversations

Share your highs and lows of the day, or respond to the following questions:

1

Is there a teacher you admire or respect? What have you learnt from them?

2

One day Jesus taught his followers up on a mountain (Matthew 5:1-11). He said that God blesses those who are humble, those who stand up for what is good and right, those who are forgiving, and those who work for peace. Share some real-life examples of these behaviours with one another.

Devotions



Daily Bible Readings

S	Matthew 5:1-12	The sermon on the mount
M	Micah 6:1-8	What God wants from you
T	Isaiah 51:12-16	Our God of comfort
W	Jeremiah 22:1-5,15-16	Do what is just and right
T	Matthew 9:10-13	Jesus speaks of mercy
F	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	God's power and wisdom
S	Psalms 15	Living on God's holy hill
S	Matthew 5:13-20	Salt and light

Discuss the bible reading. What word or phrase was important to you as you read these verses?

Rituals and Traditions



PRAYER

God, help us to live in peace with one another, and to bring peace where there is trouble. Amen.

BLESSING

May God make your life a great blessing to others.

Sundays after Epiphany

GREEN is a sign of life and nature and as such represents growth, life and hope.

Creative Response

Matthew 5:3-11 speaks of blessings. A wonderful ritual to practise regularly in your home is that of blessing one another.

When we bless another person we are calling upon God to show his goodness and kindness to them, as well as demonstrating our own care and concern for them. There are three basic elements to a personal blessing – God's name, words and touch (e.g. a hand on a shoulder, or making the sign of the cross on their forehead or palm). Good times for using blessings in a home are mealtimes, bedtimes and at daily farewells (e.g. when children leave for school or parents leave for work).

Use this week's blessing for each member of your household and experiment with the practice throughout the week.

mealtime prayer

God, you have blessed us with daily bread. Bless us also with gratitude, generosity and compassion for others. Amen.

verse for the week

The Lord has told you what he wants from you: to do what is right to other people, love being kind to others, and live humbly, obeying your God.

MICAH 6:8

Service



The prophet Micah told God's people that he wanted them to worship him not only with their words but with their actions - he wanted them to show kindness and mercy to others and to treat them in good and right ways. Decide on a 'Micah' challenge you can take on as a household to bless your community this month.