



DAILY BIBLE READINGS: 

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

Sunday	Mark 1:40-45	Jesus heals a man with leprosy
Monday	Exodus 4:1-7	A sign for Moses
Tuesday	Numbers 12:1-15	Miriam struck with leprosy
Wednesday	2 Chronicles 26:1-21	Uzziah struck with leprosy
Thursday	Luke 17:11-19	Jesus heals ten lepers
Friday	Acts 19:11-20	Paul heals the sick
Saturday	Psalms 6	Prayer for healing
Sunday	Mark 9:2-9	The transfiguration of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:

I am in deep distress. How long will it be? Turn and come to my rescue. Show your wonderful love and save me, LORD. **Psalm 6:3-4 (CEV)**

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, we want to be healed. Please show us your kindness. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Our hands we fold, our heads we bow. For food and drink, we thank God now. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God show you kindness, bring you healing, and crown you with love. Amen.



CARING CONVERSATION:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- How does it feel to be left out? Share about a time when you felt that way.
- People with leprosy were not allowed to mix with others in Jesus' time. When Jesus healed the man with leprosy, how do you think the man's life might have changed? (Read Mark 1:40-45.)
- How has Jesus changed your life? How does he want us to treat others who feel left out?

DEVOTIONS:

This week, make a point of praying for people who are sick. Prepare a list of people and mention them by name each day in your household prayers. You might want to ask your pastor for the names of people in your church who need prayers of healing. Prepare "get well" cards to send to them.

SERVICE:

In Jesus' time, lepers suffered not only because of their sickness, but also because they were social outcasts. When Jesus healed the leper he gave him a whole new beginning in life. Talk about people you know who may feel left out at school, church, or in the community. Plan to invite such a person for a meal or to be part of a household activity. Pray for them as a household.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS:

Post a "Question of the Week" on a piece of paper or a whiteboard in a common area of your home, together with a pen or marker. Questions might include, "What are your favorite foods?"; "What is a birthday gift you'd like to receive?"; "What is your favorite Bible story?"; "What annoys you?" Invite household members to post their answers during the week. Use the answers as the basis for sharing and conversation. Change the question each week. Ask household members for their question suggestions.

It is good to create rituals of family strengthening in our daily lives. It is not uncommon for one child or person to feel "left out" as compared to a sibling whom they view as "better" or more favored by their parents. In responding to the behaviors and achievements of their children, parents can unconsciously send the message that one child is preferred over and against another. It is important for us to be intentional in showing love to all of our children in ways that are not behavior-dependent. When a child misbehaves, take time to explain, "I don't like what you did, but I still like you." Compliment them for their own unique and special qualities. Give unconditional affection.



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