

MAY 11, 2014  
FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF EASTER

taking†  
faith  
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Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

### 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 passages.

Sunday	John 10:1-10	Christ the shepherd
Monday	Jeremiah 23:1-8	God will gather the flock
Tuesday	Ezekiel 34:1-16	God will rescue the sheep
Wednesday	Ezekiel 34:20-31	God's promise of a shepherd
Thursday	Matthew 18:10-14	The parable of the lost sheep
Friday	John 10:11-18	The good shepherd dies for the sheep
Saturday	Psalms 100	We are the sheep of God's pasture
Sunday	John 14:1-14	Jesus is the way, truth, and life

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"A thief comes only to rob, kill, and destroy. I came so that everyone would have life, and have it in its fullest." John 10:10 (CEV)

### SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Jesus, our Good Shepherd, help us to recognize your voice each day and follow you. Amen. (John 10:4)

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Jesus our Good Shepherd, through this day your hand has led us, and we thank you for your care. You have warmed us, clothed and fed us, listen to our grateful prayer. Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord be your Good Shepherd. May God provide for all your needs and refresh you inside and out. Amen. (Psalm 23:1-4)

### CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Which people do you trust most? Why?
- Jesus said his sheep listen to his voice and follow him (John 10:3-4). When and where do you hear Jesus' voice?
- How does listening to Jesus' voice help us?

### DEVOTIONS

In your home devotional times this week, read together Psalm 23 ("The Lord is my shepherd"). As an additional challenge, try to commit it to memory.

### SERVICE

As one of the Ten Commandments, God asks us to honor our father and our mother. Mother's Day is a special opportunity to honor our mothers through acts of loving service. If there is a mother in your home, work together to serve her on Mother's Day and throughout the week (e.g. cook her a special meal, relieve her of any household chores, plan an outing that she will enjoy).

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

If there is a mother in your home, have a special time of affirmation, prayer and blessing for her. Begin by naming those things about her that you appreciate. Then, join together in a "finish the sentence" prayer:

**"Lord God, am I thankful for (her name) because . . ."**

To finish, gather around her and lay hands on her while saying this blessing:

**"Lord God, thank you for the gift of our mother. Please bless her with wisdom, patience and strength. Help her to always know your love and ours, and lead us to always support her and appreciate her. Amen."**



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