

OCTOBER 5, 2014
17TH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

Jesus is a “stone” upon which
we can build our lives.

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	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable of the vineyard tenants
Monday	Ezekiel 19:1,10-14	A lament for Israel the vine
Tuesday	Amos 9:11-15	God will restore Israel
Wednesday	Luke 13:6-9	Parable of the fig tree
Thursday	John 7:40-52	Acceptance and rejection of Jesus
Friday	Acts 14:1-7	Acceptance and rejection of the Gospel
Saturday	Psalms 128	Blessed are all who fear the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable of the wedding feast

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“The stone the builders didn’t accept has become the most important
stone of all. The Lord has done it. It is wonderful in our eyes.”
Matthew 21:42 (NIRV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, help us to make you the center of our lives today. What
you do for us is wonderful! Amen. (Matthew 21:42)

Mealttime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank you for the food before us, the friends around us, the
love between us, and your presence with us. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord watch over you and smile on you this day. Amen.
(Psalm 80:7,14)

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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Of all of your possessions, what would you miss most if it wasn’t there?
- A capstone is the center stone found at the top of the arch. It supports the surrounding bricks or stones and helps distribute the weight of the remainder of the arch. Without it, the arch would collapse. In the Bible, Jesus is referred to as the “capstone” (see Matthew 21:42). How is he like a capstone?
- How important is Jesus in your life? Is he the “capstone” that holds your life together?

DEVOTIONS

Gather some river stones. As a home devotional activity, take turns attempting to build a stone “tower” by placing the stones one on top of another. See who can build the tallest tower. Talk together about the different things that people try to build their lives upon, and discuss Christ’s place as the “most important stone of all.” Pray together for faith and strength to build your lives upon him.

SERVICE

The prophet Isaiah compared God’s Old Testament people to a vineyard that God planted and cared for (Isaiah 5:1-7). Volunteer this week to help a sick or elderly person clean up their garden, or to help maintain your church grounds or a community area.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Philippians 3:12-14, the apostle Paul talks about eternal life as a “prize” that he is pursuing. This week, enjoy an evening of games as a household. Award prizes to all who participate. To finish, read Paul’s words and say a prayer of thanks for the ultimate prize that God gives to us through Jesus Christ.



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