

FEBRUARY 1, 2015  
FOURTH SUNDAY  
AFTER EPIPHANY

# taking+ faith home

Jesus is our great teacher.

## 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	Mark 1:21-28	Jesus teaches in the synagogue
Monday	Luke 2:22-40	Jesus presented in the temple
Tuesday	Matthew 7:24-29	Jesus teaches with authority
Wednesday	John 8:27-31	Holding to Jesus' teachings
Thursday	John 14:23-26	Obeying Jesus' teachings
Friday	Acts 17:16-32	Paul teaches about Jesus
Saturday	Job 36:22-26	Who is a teacher like him?
Sunday	Mark 1:29-39	Jesus heals many people

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. Mark 1:22 (NRSV)

### SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Lord God, keep us from becoming proud. Teach us the ways of humility and love. Amen. (1 Corinthians 8:1-3)

#### Mealtime Prayer:

The Lord is kind and merciful. He provides food for one and all. Thanks be to God! Amen. (Psalm 111:4-5)

#### A Blessing to Give:

May God teach you his ways. May you learn of his love and grace, and live in it always. Amen.



© 2014 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.  
Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow.

FEBRUARY 1, 2015  
FOURTH SUNDAY  
AFTER EPIPHANY

# taking+ faith home

## CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a teacher you liked and respected. What did you learn from him/her?
- Read Mark 1:21-22. Why do you think people were amazed at Jesus' teachings?
- What do you find amazing about Jesus? What do you wish to learn from Jesus?

## DEVOTIONS

If you have household members who are students, have a time of prayer and blessing for them. Gather around them, place your hands on their heads, backs or shoulders and say these words:

*Heavenly Father, be with \_\_\_\_\_ in his/her studies. Keep \_\_\_\_\_ safe from anything that would harm him/her in body, mind or spirit. Help \_\_\_\_\_ to gain enjoyment from learning and to learn well. Help \_\_\_\_\_ to be happy at school and to have good friendships. Help \_\_\_\_\_ to show your love to others at school and to do what is right. And help \_\_\_\_\_ to remember that you are with him/her every day, whatever happens; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## SERVICE

In your household prayer times this week, pray for teachers, including those who teach others about Christ in seminaries, schools and churches. Think of a teacher who you are particularly thankful for. Write that teacher a letter or send an appreciation card.

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

February 2 is the Church festival day for the "Presentation of the Lord." The festival recalls that forty days after his birth, Jesus was presented at the temple in Jerusalem (Luke 2:22-40). This festival is also known as "Candlemas" because of the tradition of blessing candles for use in churches and homes throughout the year. This is associated with Simeon's words about Jesus being "a light to reveal God to the nations" (Luke 2:32). Choose a new candle to light as part of your home devotional gatherings in the coming year. Say this prayer together: "Lord God, thank you for giving us Jesus as a bright light in our lives. Bless us as we gather around this candle this year. May it remind us that Jesus is with us. Amen." Light the candle and place it in a window for the evening, but don't forget to blow it out before you go to bed!



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)