

JANUARY 18, 2015
SECOND SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY

taking+ faith home

Jesus is the Son of God.

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.

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| Sunday | John 1:43-51 | Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael |
| Monday | Genesis 28:10-17 | Jacob dreams of a ladder |
| Tuesday | John 1:29-34 | John's confession of Christ |
| Wednesday | Luke 9:18-22 | Peter's confession of Christ |
| Thursday | John 12:20-26 | A request to Philip |
| Friday | John 14:5-14 | Philip questions Jesus |
| Saturday | Psalms 86:1-13 | Walking in God's way |
| Sunday | Mark 1:14-20 | Jesus calls disciples at the sea |

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" John 1:49 (RSV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Jesus, Son of God, thank you for calling us to follow you and for leading us this day. Amen. (John 1:43)

Mealtime Prayer:

God bless this food. God bless this day. God keep us safe in every way. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you faith in his Son Jesus and help you to follow him. Amen. (John 1:43,49)

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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- If you could use only six words to describe who you are to someone else, what words would you choose?
- Nathanael described Jesus as "Son of God" and "King of Israel." (John 1:49). Do you agree with Nathanael? Why?
- Finish this sentence: "It is important that Jesus is God's Son because _____."

DEVOTIONS

Psalms 139:13-16 tells how each of us was specially and uniquely created by God and of his intimate love and concern for each of us. Read and talk about these verses in your home devotional time this week.

You created the deepest parts of my being. You put me together inside my mother's body. How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well. None of my bones was hidden from you when you made me inside my mother's body. That place was as dark as the deepest parts of the earth. When you were putting me together there, your eyes saw my body even before it was formed. You planned how many days I would live. You wrote down the number of them in your book before I had lived through even one of them.

Share stories of where and when you were born. If possible, look at baby pictures of household members. Say prayers of thanks for the wonderful gifts of God that each of you are!

SERVICE

When Jesus called Philip to follow him, he wanted to share the good news of Jesus with his friend Nathanael. He brought Nathanael to Jesus, and Nathanael began to follow Jesus, too. Who are your friends? Invite each household member to choose one friend with whom they can share Jesus this week through a special act of love, service or encouragement. Talk about how you can do this and what may be involved.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

January 18 is the Church festival of the "Confession of Peter." Peter means "rock" and when he was asked by Jesus to confess what he believed, he said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16). Set out a bowl of rocks. Have each person in your household take one and complete this sentence: "Something I believe about Jesus is _____." As an added activity, cement or glue the rocks together into your own "Confession Sculpture." Place it in your yard or garden as a symbol of your faith.



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



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