

JUNE 28, 2015
FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking⁺ faith home

Jesus has power over sickness and death.

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 5:21-43	Jesus heals and raises to life
Monday	1 Kings 17:17-24	Elijah restores a dead child to life
Tuesday	2 Kings 20:1-11	God heals Hezekiah
Wednesday	Mark 9:14-27	Jesus heals a child
Thursday	Acts 9:32-42	Peter restores Tabitha to life
Friday	2 Corinthians 7:5-13	Grief leads to repentance
Saturday	Psalms 130	Prayer for restoration
Sunday	Mark 6:1-13	Jesus sends the Twelve

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." Mark 5:36 (NRSV)

SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

A Prayer for the Week:

Healing God, please take us by the hand and lift us up. Amen.
(Mark 5:41)

Mealtime Prayer:

With this food you make us strong. To you our life and love belong.
Thanks be to you, O God! Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Jesus give you faith when you are afraid and peace when you are suffering. Amen. (Mark 5:34, 36)

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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Have you ever felt "stuck?" Have you ever thought, "I don't know how I'm going to do this or get through this?" Share about those times.
- Read the story of Jesus and Jairus in Mark 5:21-24, 35-43. What different feelings do you think Jairus had as these events took place?
- How has Jesus helped you when you have felt worried, sad or afraid?

DEVOTIONS

July 1 (Wednesday) marks the beginning of the second half of 2015. In your home devotional time this week, share your highs and lows from the first half of the year and your hopes for the next six months. Read and discuss Lamentations 3:22-23 and talk about how it applies to the year so far and the months to come. Pray together for God's blessing upon your household for the remainder of 2015.

SERVICE

The woman who touched Jesus' cloak and was healed was an "outsider" amongst her own people. Her illness meant that others saw her as "unclean" and avoided her. *Discuss together:* "Who are the 'outsiders' in our society and in our community, that is, the people that are often looked down upon or left out? Are there any people in our church who might feel this way sometimes?" Decide on one act of kindness that you, as a household, can do for someone who may be feeling left out in some way.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Appropriate touch is a very important God-given way of expressing love and care for others. In fact, science has shown that as humans we need the touch of others to stay healthy in body, mind and spirit. In your household prayer times this week, hold hands as you pray. Talk together about how you might use other forms of healthy and positive touch in your home, such as hugs, high-fives, or blessings.



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Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow.



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