

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Luke 16:1-13	Parable of the shrewd manager
Monday	Mark 12:38-44	A widow's offering
Tuesday	Matthew 19:16-23	The rich young man
Wednesday	Psalm 62	Don't set your heart on riches
Thursday	Ecclesiastes 5:10-12	The love of money
Friday	1 Timothy 6:6-9	The dangers of loving money
Saturday	Psalm 141	Keep me from snares
Sunday	Luke 16:19-31	Poor Lazarus and the rich man

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Scripture Verse for the Week:

"You cannot be the slave of two masters. You will like one more than the other or be more loyal to one than to the other. You cannot serve God and money." – Luke 16:13 (CEV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayer for this Week:

Lord, keep me from worshipping money. Instead help me to use my money in ways that serve you. Amen. (Luke 16:13)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord, please bless all rulers and leaders today. Guide them to do what pleases you. Amen. (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

A Blessing to Share:

May God bless you with a safe and peaceful life. May God save you, and make you godly and holy. Amen. (1 Timothy 2:2-4)

Mealtime Refrain:

Christ Jesus is the only one who can bring us to God:
He gave himself to rescue us all. (1 Timothy 2:5-6)

Mealtime Prayer:

*Lord, you give us bread for living.
Keep us from living for bread. Amen.*



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Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about something you saved for and then bought. How did it feel to buy it?
- Money is a good gift from God. How do you think God wants us to use it? How can money cause problems in our relationship with God?
- In what different ways can you use your money to serve God?

Devotional Practices:

The apostle Paul encourages us to offer "requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving" for rulers and all those in positions of authority (1 Timothy 2:1-2). In your household devotion times this week pray for leaders in your nation and community, using the prayer suggestions below. Find out the names of those you don't know.

Monday – national leaders.

Tuesday – state/provincial leaders.

Wednesday – community leaders.

Thursday – school leaders.

Friday – church leaders.

Saturday – parents.

Service:

Our leaders need our encouragement for their work! Choose a government leader or official to whom to write a note of support. Let them know you are praying for them.

Rituals and Traditions:

Decorate a shoe box or similar box to be used as a prayer box. Keep this on your home altar or in your home devotional area. As a household, make a list of prayer topics and write each one onto a separate index card. Also copy out some traditional prayers (e.g. Lord's Prayer, Luther's Morning & Evening Prayers, Prayer of St. Francis) onto different colored index cards. Place the index cards into the decorated box. At the start of each week, pull out an index card of each color and place these on your fridge or notice board as your prayer and prayer topic for the week. Use these when you gather together.

Parent Toolbox: The Honor of Parenting

In his writings on the Fourth Commandment, Martin Luther emphasized the position of parenting as one of great honor and significance. He wrote:

"God has given this walk of life, of fatherhood and motherhood, a special position of honor, higher than that of any other walk of life under it. Not only has he commanded us to love parents but to honor them. In regard to brothers, sisters, and neighbors in general he commands nothing higher than that we love them. But he distinguishes father and mother above all other persons on earth, and places them next to himself."

Parenting is a great calling that has God's special concern and blessing! In caring for our children we are doing God's holy work!

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