

5 September 2021

FIFTEENTH  
SUNDAY AFTER  
PENTECOST

God cares for the needy.

verse for the week

say to those  
who hearts  
are afraid, 'Be  
strong. Do not  
fear. Your God  
will come'.

ISAIAH 35:4

## Devotions



### Daily Bible Readings

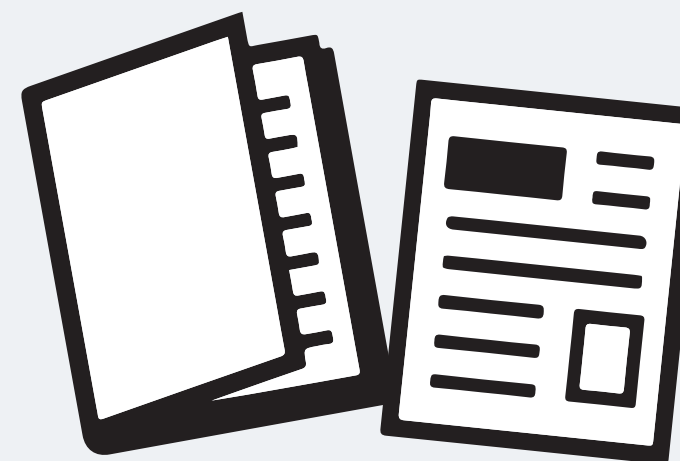
S	Mark 7:24-37	Jesus heals the Gentiles
M	Isaiah 35:4-7a	The return of the exiled
T	James 2:1-17	Faith without works is dead
W	Luke 18:1-8	The widow and the unjust judge
T	Hosea 12:2-6	Return to your God
F	Mark 9:14-29	Jesus gives a boy speech
S	Psalms 146	Praise for God's help
S	Mark 8:27-38	Taking up the cross

**Discuss the bible reading. What word or phrase was important to you as you read these verses?**

## Creative Response

Gather stories from the newspaper, magazines or the internet which describe people in need.

Place them on a poster, pinboard or in your family prayer book. Pray for these situations and people in need as you gather together this week. Close by praying the Lord's Prayer.



### mealttime prayer

Lord, as we thank you for all that you give us, bless those who have little. Give us hearts that care and hands that share. Amen.

## Service



create a permanent category on your shopping list entitled 'items for those in need'.

Whenever you shop for groceries, purchase non-perishable items, toiletries etc to contribute to your church community outreach food box.

Involve different people in your household to choose items for purchase.

Pray together for God to bless those who will receive your donations.

## Caring Conversations

share your highs and lows of the day, or respond to the following questions:

1

Share about a time when you were in need. Who helped you?

2

The apostle James reminds us that having faith means that we are concerned with the needs of others (James 2:14-17). Can you see any needs in the people around you? (What are they?)

3

How are you involved in helping to provide for the needs of others? (Look at the service idea this week).

## Rituals and Traditions



### PRAYER

Dear God, thank you for your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who comes to bring mercy and healing for our daily lives. Amen.

### BLESSING

May the Lord lift you up, watch over you, and uphold you now and always.