



Taking Faith Home

April 8, 2018

My Dear Fellow Christians, The Apostle Paul writes in Romans 10:17: ***Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.*** If you have a sincere desire to grow in your faith and be strong in your faith then this promise of God is for you. When you read the Bible passages assigned below, be assured that God Himself is speaking to you. When you take to heart what God is saying to you, be further assured that the faith given to you in your Baptism is being nourished and strengthened. And so when you take this devotion outline and put it into practice, be assured that you are really:

TAKING FAITH HOME!

May God richly bless you! *Pastor Dan Decker*

The following is offered as a daily discipline for your reading, study, prayer, and praise.

I. Begin with: *In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

II. Confess the Seventh Commandment: You shall not steal. *What does this mean? - We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.*

III. PSALM OF THE WEEK: Psalm 4

IV. PRAYER OF THE WEEK:

Lord God, keep my needs simple and my motives pure. Let me be vigilant within, that no "easy money" tempts me to take it. If I gain the "whole world" but lose my self- respect and incur Your anger, I have become a poor loser. Help me to trust in what the Apostle Paul says of You in Romans 8:32: ***He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?*** Give me the faith to trust that if You were willing to give Jesus to be my Savior, then You will surely give to me all the other things I truly need in life. This I ask through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

V. DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Sunday-Acts 4:1-7

Monday-Acts 4:8-12

Tuesday-1 John 3:1-7

Wednesday-Luke 24:1-12

Thursday-Luke 24:13-35

Friday- Luke 24:36-48

Saturday-Luke 24:49-52

VI. DAILY PRAYERS (Please try to focus your prayers on the theme of each day):

Sunday: Pray for St. Paul's members to experience the joy of Jesus' resurrection and for the faithful preaching and hearing of God's Word.

Monday: Pray in thanksgiving for your Baptism, for your coworkers and the unemployed.

Tuesday: Pray that God's Word would guide your daily decisions, for those who have fallen away from the Church, and for all unbelievers.

Wednesday: Pray for those who serve in our government, for your family and friends, and for those who are in adult and junior confirmation classes.

Thursday: Pray in thanksgiving for the privilege of receiving the Lord's Supper.

Friday: Pray for all Christians who are experiencing persecution because of the Faith and for all who experience mental and physical pain.

Saturday: Pray that the Holy Spirit would draw His people to His House.

VII. SPECIAL PETITIONS FOR THIS WEEK: Pray for God's blessings on our youth program.

Our members, who are ill: Dorothy Johnson; Donna Louison; Frank Splinter; Payden Belk; Presley Belk

Friends/Family of our members, who are ill: *These names will remain on the list for three months.* Please remember all who are ill, especially:

FEBRUARY --- Deb Husen (*mother of Jason Steinke*)

MARCH --- Nancy Wagner Zimborski (*alumna of St. Paul's School*)

APRIL --- Pastor Paul Garchow; Erric Moen (*friend of Paul & Vicki Fetting*)

Military and families: (Capital Letters = Active Military): ZACH BOUTELLE; Dan Caldwell; RYAN CLAUER; MASON CRAWLEY (*son-in-law of Cynthia LeStarge*); MAKENZIE DE WAR; SETH HAFFERY; Kyle Hendrikson; Emily (Oscarson) Keator; Stephen Lenaas; CHAZ and KALON MAGNUSON (*sons of Cynthia LeStarge*); TYLER MOREHEAD; JONATHAN PALSMA (*son of Cynthia LeStarge*); Kathy (Sands) McKillips; AMBER SORNSON; KEITH SPOON. *Please note that some military members cannot be listed for security reasons.*

Missionaries: Shauen & Krista Trump serving in Africa; Kip & Ivy Hoech serving in Kyrgyzstan; Pastor John Reinke serving the Deaf; James & Christel Neuendorf and Jamielynn Tinkey serving in the Dominican Republic. *Please note that some missionaries cannot be listed for security reasons.*