



## Taking Faith Home September 9, 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 Baptism, Part 3, How can water do such great things?**—Answer: It is not the water indeed that does them, but the word of God which is in and with the water, and faith, which trusts such word of God in the water. For without the word of God the water is simple water and no baptism. But with the word of God it is a baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of regeneration in the Holy Ghost, as St. Paul says, Titus, chapter three: *By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ, our Savior, that, being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a faithful saying.*

**III. PSALM OF THE WEEK: Psalm 116:1-9**

**IV. PRAYER OF THE WEEK:** Lord, do not let the thought of death fill my heart with terror, but give me the blessed assurance that, just as You raised Christ from the dead, I will not remain in the grave but will rise again at the end of days. Let Your Son's resurrection be for me a sure pledge that an inheritance that does not fade is reserved for me in Heaven. In and through Your Son's Name I pray. Amen.

**V. DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

**Sunday**—Psalm 116:10-19

**Monday**—Isaiah 50:1-3

**Tuesday**—Isaiah 50:4-10

**Wednesday**—James 3:1-6

**Thursday**—James 7-12

**Friday**—Mark 9:1-13

**Saturday**—Mark 9:14-29

**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 to bless our *Consecrated Stewards* emphasis.

**Our members, who are ill:** Donna Louison; Frank Splinter; Payden Belk; Presley Belk; Michelle Risch

**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:

JUNE --- Kathy Kamin (*sister of Dave & Laura Manke*); Christine Lindau (*Tim Lindau family*); Joshua Sweetman (*grandson of Trish Plante*); Gene Winger (*grandfather of Janie Carroll*); David Redmann (*son of Ray & Karen Redmann*); Lukas Malone (*grandson of Ron & Laurie Decker*); Vernice Stark (*sister-in-law of Dorothy Decker*).

JULY --- Vern Klitzke (*friend of Ed & Lois James*)

AUG --- 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*); MAJOR KATHY (SANDS) MCKILLIPS, AMBER SORNSON; Keith Spoon; CAMERON STRAIGHT. *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.*