



September 22, 2024, 18th Sunday after

Pentecost

Mark 9:30-37

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Servant God, like your disciples, we often miss the point of who you are and what you came to do in Christ Jesus. We want to distinguish ourselves in your eyes, and would rather not dwell on your painful death—the most profound act of service anyone could ever have done. Reset our priorities, and keep our focus on your call to the kind of sacrificial love that bears witness to your presence in the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." (Mark 9:35)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus' disciples argued among themselves who was the greatest. Jesus told them that the first was the one who was willing to serve even the least in the world.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Has your community ever been focused on something superficial when bigger issues were happening? What were the issues? Were they able to refocus? How?
- Do you like to be in charge? Why or why not? Do you struggle when others are in charge? What helps you defer to others?
- For the littles: What happens if you don't get what you want?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God grant you the ability to see the bigger picture instead of focusing inward. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Instead of worrying about yourself, focus on serving others. Help carry groceries for someone at the store, open doors, offer to help with chores for neighbors who have mobility challenges.



Go Deeper: Read and reflect on the readings for each day of the week.

Monday, Psalm 128; Proverbs 27:1-27; James 4:8-17

Tuesday, Psalm 128; Ecclesiastes 4:9-16; James 5:1-6

Wednesday, Psalm 128; Ecclesiastes 5:1-20; John 8:21-38

Thursday, Psalm 124; Esther 1:1-21; Acts 4:13-31

Friday, Psalm 124; Esther 2:1-23; Acts 12:20-25

Saturday, Psalm 124; Esther 3:1-15; Matthew 5:13-20