



September 3, 2023,

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 16:21-28

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



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

God of vocation, stir up in us a passion for your creation that we might have the courage to follow the difficult path Jesus led. Give us both the sustenance we need to flourish and a heart for sacrifice on behalf of others, that all might have life and have it abundantly. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.



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

But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." (Matthew 16:23)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus had his mind set on heavenly things so that he could give his life for the sake of the world. He taught his disciples to look upward and live forward.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Why do you think Jesus reprimanded Peter for rejecting his expectation of suffering? What was Jesus' mind set on?

When has your suffering led to a positive outcome?

For the littles: Sometimes we get turned around and need help getting pointed in the right direction. When has someone pointed you in the right direction?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God turn you toward the things of God. Amen.



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

Sometimes we get set in our ways and have trouble breaking out of our regular routine. Use your GPS this week to find different routes to familiar places. Shop the aisles backward from your regular routine. Consider how the shift in routine can also shift your perspective.



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

Monday, Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18; Exodus 4:10-31; Revelation 3:1-6
Tuesday, Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18; Exodus 5:1-6:13; Revelation 3:7-13
Wednesday, Psalm 83:1-4, 13-18; Exodus 7:14-25; Matthew 12:22-32
Thursday, Psalm 149; Exodus 9:1-7; 2 Corinthians 12:11-21
Friday, Psalm 149; Exodus 10:21-29; Romans 10:15b-21
Saturday, Psalm 149; Exodus 11:1-10; Matthew 23:29-36