

## **July 16**

### Matthew 24:42-51

As Christians, we affirm that Christ will return some day and in this passage, Jesus teaches that we are to always remain prepared for that day.

*Question to Consider:*

Do you believe that Jesus will return some day? Are you prepared?

*Prayer:*

Loving God, Jesus says that he will return and I want to be ready. Help me live my life in such a way that I will always be prepared for the return of Jesus. In his name I pray, Amen.

## **July 17**

### Luke 12:49-53

In this passage, Jesus says that his coming will cause division, maybe even within households.

*Question to Consider:*

Has your faith in Jesus Christ put up a barrier between you and someone else in your family? Who?

*Prayer:*

Father God, it hurts to know that my faith in Jesus may cause tension with someone in my family who does not share my faith. Help me to love that person like Jesus would, but also help me to stay strong in my faith. I pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

## **July 18**

### Luke 13:1-9

In these verses, Jesus calls his followers to repentance, to turn away from our sin.

*Question to Consider:*

Jesus told two stories about people who died unexpectedly and he used them as a way to remind us of the need to repent of our sin. Is there sin in your life for which repentance is needed?

*Prayer:*

Forgiving God, I want to be honest with you. I know that I need to repent for *(be specific and name the sin, or sins, for which you need to repent)*. I pray for forgiveness and I pray that you will help me to change my ways. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

## **July 19**

### Luke 13:10-17

This passage tells of Jesus healing a woman on the Sabbath, and of him being criticized for it.

*Question to Consider:*

Why do you think the synagogue ruler was so angry with Jesus for healing on the Sabbath?

*Prayer:*

Loving God, just like the synagogue ruler, I have rules and rituals that are important to me, but please help to always remember that people are more important than those rules and rituals, and even more important is my relationship with you. I pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

## **July 20**

### Luke 13:22-30

In these verses, Jesus teaches that the way to eternal life is narrow.

*Question to Consider:*

Jesus teaches that the way to eternal life is narrow. Think about your own life. What do you believe this story has to say to *you*?

*Prayer:*

Gracious God, you offer eternal life through Jesus Christ, but I also know that you expect some things of me – you expect that my life will be a reflection of the faith I proclaim. I pray that I remain strong in my faith and that my living is a reflection of it. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.