

## **June 16**

### Mark 3:7-12

Jesus' fame continued to grow and large crowds were turning to him for healing.

#### *Question to Consider:*

Most of these people first heard about Jesus because of the healing that he did. How did you first hear about Jesus? When was it?

#### *Prayer:*

Loving God, I thank you that I know about Jesus and I pray for those who do not yet know him. I pray that I will be open to being used by you to share the love of Jesus with the people you put in my path. It is in Jesus' name that I pray, Amen.

## **June 17**

### Luke 7:36-50

This passage tells the story of Jesus teaching a lesson about forgiveness.

#### *Question to Consider:*

As far as the Pharisees were concerned, the woman in this story was beyond forgiveness, and yet Jesus forgave her sins. Is there someone you can think of who seems to be beyond forgiveness? How might Jesus view that person? How should you?

#### *Prayer:*

Forgiving God, it is good to know that you can forgive anyone because that means you can also forgive me. Forgive my sins, Lord (*name some specific ones*), and help me to be a more forgiving person. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

## **June 18**

### Matthew 12:22-30

In these verses, Jesus is accused of being in league with the prince of demons.

#### *Question to Consider:*

The Pharisees questioned the motivation of Jesus, even though he was doing good things. Has there been a time when you questioned someone's motivation, even though good things were being done? What were the circumstances?

#### *Prayer:*

All-knowing God, you know what is in our hearts, even better than we know ourselves. Help me to be less judgmental, and to see people as you do. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

## **June 19**

### Mark 3:31-35

Jesus gives a new meaning to the concept of “family” in these verses.

*Question to Consider:*

Who are some special people you are “related to” because of your faith? What makes them special?

*Prayer:*

Father God, I thank you for the special people of faith who love you and love me, and who show me through their living what it means to be a Christian. I pray that I will grow as a follower of Christ and as someone who models the Christian life for others. In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen.

## **June 20**

### Mark 4:1-9, 13-20

In these verses, Jesus tells the “parable of the four soils” and then explains it to his disciples.

*Question to Consider:*

Be honest – which of the four soils most resembles you and the way you receive the teachings of Jesus? Is your answer different now than it would have been, say, 2 years ago?

*Prayer:*

Gracious God, I want to be a person in which your word takes root, grows, and bears fruit for you and your kingdom. I open my heart to you and ask you to help me become good soil. I pray in Jesus’ name, Amen.