



Fourteenth Sunday
after Pentecost

August 29, 2021

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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



Pray: Light a candle. Open your devotion with prayer.

O God, you know what we carry in our inmost hearts. Fill us with the things which promote life, and purge us of all that distorts and defiles from within, for the sake of Jesus our Lord. Amen.



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

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

(Mark 7:14-15)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus could see that the rites and rituals being performed had fallen far from God's intent for God's people. Jesus demanded that they stop over-attending to external things, and begin attending to the internal things that defile.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household or community.

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

Words can hurt. Think of a story that was reported unfairly. Did it cause division? What would it take for people to unlearn the lie and relearn the truth?

How do you feel when you indulge in gossip? How does it affect your relationships?

For the littles: What is the nicest thing you can say about people who you love? God likes when we speak kindly!



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May the God of all bless the words that come out of your mouth and the actions that come from your bodies. Amen.



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

Practice sharing good with your actions. Volunteer your time at a nursing home reading to people, playing games, or singing music with them.



Go Deeper: Go to bit.ly/daily-devotions-rcl for the daily readings!

Monday, Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 3:6-11; 1 Timothy 4:6-16

Tuesday, Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 5:2-6:3; 1 Peter 2:19-25

Wednesday, Psalm 144:9-15; Song of Solomon 8:5-7; Mark 7:9-23

Thursday, Psalm 125; Proverbs 1:1-19; Romans 2:1-11

Friday, Psalm 125; Proverbs 4:10-27; Romans 2:12-16

Saturday, Psalm 125; Proverbs 8:1-31; Matthew 15:21-31