

Chapter 24 – No Ordinary Man Day One – Good Teacher

Today's reading: Page 335 through middle of page 341

This reading covers: Matthew 5; Mark 4; Luke 10, 15

Summary: Jesus teaches me how to follow God.

Do together: Have a treasure hunt! Hide some small objects – quarters or Hershey kisses, for instance – in another room or outside. Then start searching.

Think about: The parables Jesus told the people had important meanings. What was Jesus trying to tell the people with his story about the one lost sheep? How do you feel to know that Jesus loves everyone – even those who are very bad and run from him – because he wants them to know him and believe in him? What was Jesus trying to tell the people with his story about the Samaritan who helped a man he didn't even know? Can you name some ways you can be a "good neighbor" to people? In one of his sermons, Jesus mentioned a lot of people who, at first, might seem to have it bad, but as it turns out, by doing the right thing, they were "blessed." What does it mean to be "blessed?"

Also read: Matthew 22:35-40; 1 Timothy 2:1-4

Prayer: Jesus, thank you for your stories and sermons that teach us important truths about you and how we should live. Help me love others because you love me. In your name I ask this, Amen.

Chapter 24 – No Ordinary Man Day Two – How do I Pray?

Today's reading: Middle of page 341 through bottom of page 342

This reading covers: Matthew 6

Summary: Jesus teaches his followers how to talk with God.

Do together: Draw a picture of you talking on the telephone or sending an e-mail on the computer.

Think about: What's God's telephone number? Does he have an e-mail address? Those are silly questions, right? When we want to talk to God, how do we do it? Jesus even gave us a sample prayer and told us some ways to make our prayer time meaningful to us and pleasing to him. What are some things you can do when you pray to keep your mind from wandering? Do you have to use fancy words when you pray? Should you be a show-off about it? Do you even have to speak the words aloud, or can you just "think" your prayer? What sort of things can you say to God?

Also read: Psalm 139:1-3; Philippians 4:4-7; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for teaching us how to pray. Thank you for listening – even to my thoughts. Open my heart so I understand when you talk to me too. In Jesus name, Amen.

Chapter 24 – No Ordinary Man
Day Three – Miracles

Today's reading: Bottom of page 346 through page 351

This reading covers: Matthew 14; Mark 4, 6; John 6

Summary: Jesus is the best miracle of all.

Do together: Draw a picture of Jesus performing one of the miracles you just read about.

Think about: Could you make it stop raining just by clapping your hands? Could you take one peanut butter-and-jelly sandwich and end up with enough food to feed all the people in a big gymnasium? You might be able to swim, but can you walk on water? No way! Jesus was able to do those kinds of things we call miracles. Why was he able to do them? Why do you think he did them: to show off or to help people believe in him?

Also read: Psalm 77:10-15; John 10:22-30; Acts 2:22-24

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank you for coming to earth in order to die for my sins. Help me always to love you, trust you and serve you as you are the greatest miracle of all. I pray in your name, Amen.