



February 18, 2024, First Last and Last First

Mark 10:17-31

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



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

Holy God, you speak to us and guide our ways through your word. Inspire us by the Holy Spirit to dig deep and be transformed by the love, grace, power, and wisdom we find in your scriptures, that we might, as changed people, carry forth your vision of peace and justice into our community and the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



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

"But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

Mark 10:31



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

A rich man comes to Jesus hoping to be justified by all the good things he's done. Jesus tells him and Jesus' disciples, alike, that goodness can only be measured in terms of orientation toward God.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Money can't buy happiness, but there is a certain level of income that studies have shown to offer stability, and therefore happiness. What amount of money does it take for a human to survive? How can we reconcile that with the notion that earthly possessions are not the way to eternal life?
- What would you struggle to give up if you were asked to?
- For the littles: What is your favorite toy? Could you give it away?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God fill you with peace and the trust that you will be fulfilled in ways that far outreach our understanding. Amen.



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

Practice relying less on possessions. Go through your closets and pack at least one bag to donate. Challenge yourself to give up more than you might normally give up.



Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the Narrative Lectionary daily readings.

Monday, Psalm 19:7-10, *Psalm*

Tuesday, Exodus 20:1-21, *The Ten Commandments*

Wednesday, Deuteronomy 5:1-21, *The Ten Commandments*

Thursday, Psalm 52, *Psalm*

Friday, Psalm 62, *Psalm*

Saturday, Jeremiah 32:1-25, *Jeremiah Buys a Field*