

# God's Story Our Story



**March 6, 2016**

**Devotion:** Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions. You can do this alone, as a couple, as a family; in the morning, during the day, or at night. Find a routine that works best for you.

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

**Lord of life, direct our gaze toward what we need to see. Grant us the ability to attend to what truly matters. Amen.**

**Reflect:** Reflect on the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."* Mark 12:29-31

**Study:** Study the reading and consider the background.

**How do we find our way to the realm of God? How do we sort through the hundreds of commandments offered in Holy Scripture? How shall we be judged? Such questions were brought before Jesus by all the people he encountered, whether experts disputing a point of law, disciples seeking to learn, or everyday people negotiating situations that were anything but theoretical.**

**Read:** Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text. After the reading, ask the follow-up questions.

Sunday, Mark 12:28-44, *The Great Commandment*

Monday, Psalm 89:1-4

Tuesday, Psalm 102:12-17

Wednesday, Psalm 121

Thursday, Psalm 116:12-19

Friday, Psalm 22:1-2, 14-21

Saturday, Deuteronomy 6:1-9, *The Great Commandment*

**How is the theme of love woven throughout these readings?**

**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household. Discuss the following questions, or simply check in with "Highs" and "Lows."

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

**How is love for God, others, and self woven into your life? Of these three, do you love one more than another? Why or why not?**

**Who do you find it difficult to love? Why? What could you do to love even more?**

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

**Determine who you find it the most difficult to love. Learn something new about them this week. Google or Wikipedia to increase your knowledge so that you can stand in their shoes. Knowledge leads to understanding, understanding leads to acceptance, and acceptance leads to love.**

**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God fill your heart with understanding, acceptance, and love. Amen.**