



Growing FAITH at home

2 September 2018

FIFTEENTH
SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

Caring Conversations



SHARE

Share your highs and lows of the day, or respond to the following questions:

1

Imagine life without words or speech. What would it be like?

2

The apostle James (Tuesday's reading) says that if we think we are following God but don't keep our tongues from speaking bad things, we are fooling ourselves.

Why is it so important to control our tongues?

3

James also says we should be 'quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry' Why is this good advice? How can hearing God's word help us to control our words? Where else in the Bible does God speak of this?

Devotions



READ Daily Bible Readings

S	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	Authentic faith
M	Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9	God commands obedience
T	James 1:17-27	Hearing and doing the word
W	Micah 6:6-8	What God requires
T	Matthew 15:1-20	Tradition of the elders
F	Amos 5:21-24	The importance of justice
S	Psalm 15	Who worships the Lord?
S	Mark 7:24-37	Jesus heals the Gentiles



TALK

Talk about the Bible verse. What word or phrase was important to you as you read these verses?

Rituals and Traditions



PRAY

Lord, please make us clean from the inside out, so that what we think, say and do pleases you. Amen.



BLESS

(Name) – God chose to give you a new birth through the message of truth, may you know every good and perfect gift is from him.

Putting God's Word into practice.

Creative Response

Our tongues are powerful instruments.

They can do great good, but they can also do great harm. We must all be conscious of using our tongues in kind ways to bless each other. Discuss and list as a family or household the ways you can use your tongue for good.

Here's some ideas to get you started...

- Pray for each other daily
- Be lavish with your praise and encouragement. Look for opportunities to build each other up, even the little things are worthy of compliments
- Make your home a 'no put-down zone'
- Develop a culture of sharing mistakes and asking for forgiveness.

mealtime prayer

Plates of food, gifts from above, signs of our God's gracious love. Amen.

verse for the week
'Don't just listen
to the word.
You fool yourselves
if you do that.
You must do what
it says'.

JAMES 1:22

Service



Read James 1:17-27. Being "doers of the word" implies a meekness that is not prideful. Instead, it acts with mercy that includes caring for "orphans and widows in their distress" (v. 27).

Orphans and widows represented those who were vulnerable and did not have a social safety net to keep them fed, sheltered and safe. Think of those locally and around the world who lack security of food and shelter and think of ways you can be 'doers' of God's word to help them.

