

“Living Our Baptism”

Five Gifts of Discipleship Calendar



<p>In the sacrament of Holy Baptism, we are called by the Holy Spirit, claimed by God and given new life in Jesus Christ. In our covenant with God, we promise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To live among God's faithful people, To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, To serve all people, following the example of Jesus, To strive for justice and peace in all the earth. (ELW, p. 237) 		<p>1 Create a small "sacred space" somewhere in your home with a candle and a Bible. Each week, add meaningful objects as you complete the activities.</p>	<p>2 Celebrate your baptism today. Splash water on your face, as you get ready for school or work. Make a sign of the cross on each person's forehead with water & bless.</p>	<p>3 List the names of the twelve disciples. Use your bible or other reference material to find out something about each one. What do you notice about this group of people?</p>	<p>4 Ask each person to name a modern day disciple (someone you know). Write or email that person encouraging them to continue in their faithfulness.</p>	
<p>To live among God's faithful people</p> <p>Acts 2:42, 44-46</p>	<p>5 Lift up the gifts God has given your family members. Take turns telling each other one attribute you admire in each other. Ask God to help you use these gifts to serve others.</p>	<p>6 Make a card to send to a Sunday School teacher or other volunteer at the church, thanking them for their dedication.</p>	<p>7 Find another family or several individuals to be prayer partners with. Commit to checking in with each other every week and praying for each other.</p>	<p>8 Ask each person to name one person or situation needing prayer. Offer these in prayer and then post the list on the fridge, adding to it throughout the month.</p>	<p>9 Talk about how God wants us to encourage each other to follow Christ. Ask each person to slip a secret note of encouragement under a pillow, in a coat pocket, etc. of someone else.</p>	<p>10 Volunteer as a family to serve at church as greeters, ushers, clean-up crew, etc.</p>
<p>To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper</p> <p>Matthew 7:24</p>	<p>11 Read aloud Psalm 118:24 before everyone leaves for work and school, and say a prayer to start the day joyfully</p>	<p>12 Ask children to set the table for dinner tonight with a centerpiece—a goblet and a plate. Talk about the church family and how it feels to gather for communion around a table.</p>	<p>13 Memorize a simple passage such as Psalm 46:10 or a favorite verse like John 3:16.</p>	<p>14 Sing favorite bible songs in the car on your way to school, work, sports practice, running errands, etc. or just hum your favorite hymn!</p>	<p>15 Use a praise psalm such as Psalm 100 just before dessert is served.</p>	<p>16 Host a play's theater today at home, using bible stories. Dress up and act out your favorite Old Testament and New Testament stories. Use a child's storybook or download some off the web!</p>
<p>To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed</p> <p>Matthew 5:14-16</p>	<p>17 Give each person sticky notes and a Bible (or work in teams) to find scripture passages that have meaning for your family. Post them around the house where they can be seen.</p>	<p>18 Study together the words of Colossians 4:3-4 to help tell others about God. Pray for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The opportunity The other person will hear it. That we won't be afraid 	<p>19 Invite a friend to come to a meal together and pray.</p>	<p>20 Practice sharing your faith by telling one another where you have seen God's presence (God Sightings) in the last week in your life or in the world.</p>	<p>21 Draw chalk pictures on your sidewalk and include positive messages and faith thoughts for others to see.</p>	<p>22 Plan a family meal out. Before you say your table blessing, ask your server if there is a special need for which your family could pray.</p>
<p>To serve all people, following the example of Jesus</p> <p>John 13:14-15</p>	<p>23 Count some coins! Each person puts coins in a jar for shoe size, age, letters in the first name, be creative! Take turns selecting the amount and the topic. Donate to a favorite charity or go to www.elca.org/hunger and find out how you can help.</p>	<p>24 Plan a visit to someone who is homebound or needs encouragement. Make some cards, take some flowers or bring a small candle.</p>	<p>25 Figure out who has the next birthday in your family. Talk about alternative gifts. Tell friends and family you are collecting toys for a children's shelter, scarves for the homeless, money to support a charity to honor the person.</p>	<p>26 Model random acts of kindness. Let people go ahead in a checkout line, open the door for someone, put a coin in someone's parking meter.</p>	<p>27 Walk in the neighborhood or park. Wear garden gloves and carry a trash bag to do your part in cleaning up the environment and helping your community.</p>	<p>28 Give an hour today by helping a neighbor or a friend.</p>
<p>To strive for justice and peace in all the earth</p> <p>Micah 6:8</p>	<p>29 Pick a story from the news (local, national, or global) and pray for the people who are being affected while at your evening meal.</p>	<p>30 Read Luke 10:25-27. Discuss these questions: Who is my neighbor? To whom have I been a neighbor?</p>	<p>31 Collect canned and boxed food to give to a food pantry for low income and homeless families. Talk about how helping people stay well is part of striving for peace and justice.</p>	<p>32 Share local situations where you see conflict. Discuss different ways in which you could be peacemakers in those areas.</p>	<p>33 Begin a family tradition of ending a meal with your own "dismissal statement" such as Go in Peace . . . Serve the Lord, Go in Peace . . . Strive for Justice.</p>	<p>34 Take a ten-minute walk. For the first five minutes walk in silence, watching and listening for God's presence. Then pray for families, creation, and other prompters you encounter on your journey.</p>
	<p>35 Read the story of Palm Sunday in Matthew 21: 1-9. If Jesus were to come to your town today, how would you welcome him?</p>	<p>36 Sort through your garments, linens and other household goods. Find items that are in good condition but you no longer use. Give them to an agency that helps those in need.</p>	<p>37 Gather with partners. Talk about what you learned and what you enjoyed.</p>	<p>38 Read the story of the Last Supper found in John 13: 1-17. What do Jesus' actions say about how we should treat others?</p>	<p>39 Invite a friend, neighbor, or relative to church.</p>	<p>40 Deliver some goodies to a next door neighbor or friend that might be struggling with illness or losing a loved one or just having a tough time.</p>