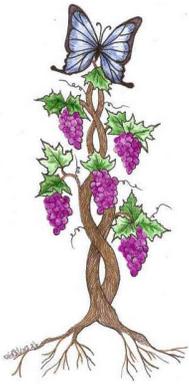
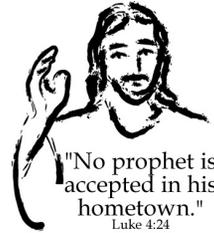


*Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way*



February 3, 2019

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-30



"No prophet is
accepted in his
hometown."
Luke 4:24

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Today I am going to ask one of you to help teach the lesson. Who would like to be my helper today? (Choose a child who is well known to the other children.) Thank you, John for volunteering to be our helper today. You all know John, don't you? he may go to school with some of you. Does anyone here go to school or Sunday School with John? John might even be in your class. Is anyone here in the same class with John? Some of you know John pretty well. I am going to tell you some things about him and you tell me whether you believe.

John likes the color red, Do you think that could be true? We may not know what his favorite color is, but it is certainly possible that he likes the color red. John likes ice cream. Do you think that could be true? Sure, what kid doesn't like ice cream? John likes to play sports. Could that be true? Sure it could. Many boys and girls like to play sports so it is quite possible that John does too.

Here is something you probably didn't know. John has the power to heal the sick of all their diseases. Do you think that could be true? You don't? Why not? Well, you know John and he is just an ordinary kid like you. He lives right here in the same town, you might go to the same school, or play on the same soccer team. There is no way he has the power to heal sick, is there?

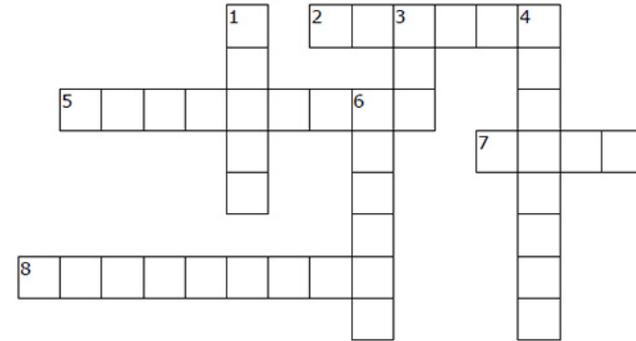
In the day that Jesus lived, many people had a hard time believing some of the things that they heard about him. This was especially true of the people in his home town of Nazareth. People had heard about the miracles that Jesus had done in Capernaum and they just didn't know how they could be true. After all, they grew up with Jesus, and wasn't he Joseph's son? How could the son of a carpenter do all of the things that they had heard about?

Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself! Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.' I tell you the truth," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown.

The people in the synagogue became furious. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him up on the hill on which the town was built, because they wanted to throw him off of a cliff. But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way. What a way to treat someone you grew up with! It seems that no matter what Jesus did, he just couldn't seem to please the people in his own hometown.

Gracious and loving God, even when others refuse to believe that Jesus has the power to heal and forgive, help us to remain faithful and true, and help us to make a home in our heart where Jesus can always live. Amen.

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 2. The earthly father of Jesus
- 5. Another word for a doctor
- 7. To make or become healthy again
- 8. The sacred writings of the Bible

DOWN

- 1. An area of high, steep rocks beside the sea
- 3. A person's male child
- 4. The town where you grew up
- 6. To be very surprised

HEAL	SON	PHYSICIAN	AMAZED
JOSEPH	HOMETOWN	SCRIPTURE	CLIFF

Activity: Write WHO CAN on the top of a long piece of paper then write questions on it. (WHO CAN heal the sick? WHO CAN take care of us? WHO CAN part the waters? WHO CAN save our souls? WHO CAN provide all that you need? WHO CAN forgive?) The children can each use a different colored marker to write JESUS on the banner when it's their turn. After every question, the children can shout... JESUS, as each child writes JESUS on the banner. Give children stars and stickers to decorate the banner when activity is done.

Discussion Question: The people of Nazareth didn't believe that Jesus could do miracles, even though they had heard otherwise. Is there a time when you had to see something happen before you would believe that it was true?

Family Table Prayer for February:

Our Loving God so kind and good,
We thank you for our daily food.
We thank you for your love and care.
Be with us Lord, and hear our prayer. Amen.

February Memory Verse: 1 Corinthians 16:14 Let all that you do be done in love.

Luke 4:24

