

## Using Our Talents

We plead with God for mercy on our situations, submitting to him and looking to him for help (Ps 123). We use our gifts and talents wisely (Mt 25:14-30) until his anticipated return (1Thess 5:1-11) and judgment (Zeph 1:7, 12-18).

## Right Paths

The power of Christ's precious blood is seen in the Passover, as are other symbols of the faith (Ex 12:1-14). We pray for God to help us better understand his instructions so we can wholeheartedly walk in the right paths on our spiritual journey (Ps 119:33-40). We pledge to confront in love our fellow Christians who fall away from the faith in some way (Mt 18:15-20). We cast off the works of darkness to walk in the light of love (Rom 13:8-14).

## Salt and Light

How do we please God? By caring for the poor and working toward justice (Is 58:1-9, 12), exhibiting courage, fearing the Lord and following his commandments (Ps 112:1-9, 10) and living in the Spirit, depending on the power of God rather than the power of rhetoric (1 Cor 2:1-12, 13-16). In this way, we become the salt of the earth and the light of the world (Mt 5:13-20).

## Breaking Bread

Jesus offers forgiveness of sins, which we embrace through baptism (Acts 2:14a, 36-41), and his presence with us today through the breaking of bread in the sacrament of communion (Lk 24:13-25). Because of Christ's perfect life, laid down for our imperfect ones, we are to purify our souls through love and obedience (1Pet 1:17-23). In the midst of personal affliction and difficulty, we call on the Lord for help, knowing he loves us (Ps 116:1-4, 12-19).

## Confidence Through Christ

Jesus has risen from the dead (Acts 2:14a, 22-32). With this in mind, God deserves our confidence. He will bring us through any difficulties, and we will once again be joyful (Ps 16) because of our hope through the resurrection of salvation of eternal life (1 Pet 1:3-9). Until Jesus comes again, he has left us with the Holy Spirit to guide us and help us on our spiritual journey (Jn 20:19-31).