

Sunday, April 27, 2025

## Scripture Reading: John 20:19-31

*To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you. —Lewis B. Smedes*

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### The Parable of the Two Brothers

Once upon a time, there were two brothers: James, the older; and John, the younger. They lived on neighboring farms. They had always lived in harmony. One day, however, a conflict arose. It began with a small misunderstanding and soon snowballed into a major dispute. Words were exchanged, and they stopped speaking to one another. Years went by.

One day, there was a knock on James' door. It was a carpenter looking for work. "What's your name?" James asked.

"Manuel," said the carpenter.

"Well, Manuel," James said, "I want you to build a fence on my property. Build it so high that I won't have to see my brother John again."

Manuel nodded and went to work. But instead of building a fence, he built a bridge that spanned the stream between the two farms. When John saw the bridge, his heart was touched. He realized that his brother James still wanted to reconcile, despite their differences. James, for his part, was astonished. When John walked across the bridge, James was there to meet him, and they embraced in a tearful, joyous reconciliation.

"Thank you, Manuel," said the brothers in unison.

"My pleasure," said the Carpenter. "Some people call me Immanuel, but I also go by Jesús."

The Carpenter gathered his tools to leave. "Stay, stay!" the brothers cried in unison. "We have more work for you!"

But the Carpenter smiled and said, "I have many more bridges to build elsewhere," and went on his way.

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Loving God, thank you for the gift of reconciliation. Through your grace, you restore broken relationships, and heal wounded hearts. Thank you for the peace that comes from forgiveness and for the unity found in your love. Help me to be an instrument of reconciliation in the world. Amen.*

Week of April 27, 2025

**Daily Bible Readings**

**Sunday:** Luke 10-13

**Monday:** Judges 13-15

**Tuesday:** Judges 16-18

**Wednesday:** Judges 19-21

**Thursday:** Ruth 1-4

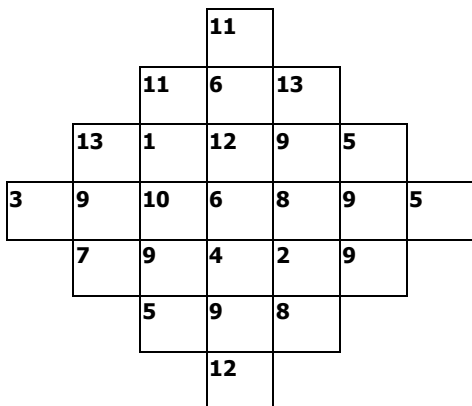
**Friday:** 1 Samuel 1-3

**Saturday:** Psalms 40-42

## NAME GAME

Some words that we use, such as these described below, come from the names of people. Identify the words and transfer the circled letters to the corresponding spaces in the diagram below to form a set of words in both directions.

1. A candy bar named after President Cleveland's daughter: B ○ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .
2. A type of button-up sweater named after an English earl: C \_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ \_ \_ \_ .
3. A tight-fitting garment with long sleeves and a high neck that is worn by a dancer — named after a French trapeze artist:  
L \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ○ .
4. A Christmas flower named after a botanist: P \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .
5. A type of engine named after its German inventor. Many pickup trucks use fuel with this same name:  
D \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ \_ .
6. A method for sterilizing milk named after a French chemist: P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ .
7. A beef dish containing sour cream named after a Russian count: S \_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .
8. A unit of electrical power named after a Scottish inventor: W \_ \_ ○ \_ .
9. A device found in amusement parks that consists of a huge wheel with seats on it is named after what American inventor?  
E ○ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .
10. Denim trousers named after a German immigrant who participated in the California gold rush: L \_ \_ ○ \_ \_ ' \_ .
11. A hoisting device used on oil wells named after an English hangman: D \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ .
12. A type of thin, crisp toast named after an Australian opera star: M \_ \_ ○ \_ \_ .
13. A kind of driver used on a four-slotted screw named after its inventor: P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ .



### Verse to Remember

*I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry.*

—Psalm 40:1



**ANSWERS:**

1. Baby Ruth
2. Cardigan
3. Leotard
4. Poinsettia
5. Diesel
6. Pasteurization
7. Stroganoff
8. Watt
9. Ferris
10. Levi's
11. Derrick
12. Melba
13. Phillips