

**Daily Reflection on Scripture**  
**Week of September 24**  
**When Faith Meets Life Week 4:**  
**Religion**



**Sunday September 24**

*Ephesians 3:14-15 This is why I kneel before the Father. Every ethnic group in heaven or on earth is recognized by God.*

**Sacred Pause** Sometimes it's easy for us to think that our religious group is always right. Yet scripture is clear that God recognizes truth in all groups that honor Him.

**Monday September 25**

*Hebrews 12:14 Work at getting along with each other and with God. Otherwise you'll never get so much as a glimpse of God. Make sure no one gets left out of God's generosity.*

**Sacred Pause** – God's generosity is beyond imagining. It is up to us to make sure that God's generosity is experienced by all people, regardless of their belief or disbelief.

**Tuesday September 26**

*Colossians 3:12-14 So, chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.*

**Sacred Pause** – Take a deep breath and ask God to help you choose compassion, kindness and love. These are the tools that can heal our divisions and lead us to true religion.

**Wednesday September 27**

*Ephesians 3:18-19 I ask that you'll have the power to grasp love's width and length, height and depth, together with all believers. I ask that you'll know the love of Christ that is beyond knowledge so that you will be filled entirely with the fullness of God.*

**Sacred Pause** – Einstein said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge." The love of Christ is also beyond knowledge. Imagine yourself living in God's deep love for all.

**Thursday September 28**

*Colossians 3:11 All the old fashions are now obsolete. Words like Jewish and non-Jewish, religious and irreligious, insider and outsider, uncivilized and uncouth, slave and free, mean nothing. From now on everyone is defined by Christ, everyone is included in Christ.*

**Sacred Pause** – What if today you looked at people for who they are and not what you might think they believe about God or the world. Remember everyone is included in Christ.

**Friday September 29**

*Galatians 3:28 In Christ's family there can be no division into Jew and non-Jew, slave and free, male and female. Among us you are all equal. That is, we are all in a common relationship with Jesus Christ.*

**Sacred Pause** - First among equals. That is who Jesus is. Jesus calls us to be equals among equals. We are to lay down things that separate and pick up things that unite us.

**Saturday September 30**

*Colossians 3:1-2 So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from his perspective.*

**Sacred pause** – How serious are you about breaking down walls that separate religious groups? Faith is an action word. How might you join the cause of Christ to bring unity?