**Family Prayer: Scripture Reflection**

**OPENING PRAYER:**

God our Father, we thank you for your great love and for the gift of our family. Open our hearts to listen to your word and to praise you with one voice. We make this prayer to you in Jesus’ name. A

**READING:**

Option 1: Read the daily readings from the mass for the day. These can be found through the “Laudate” app, by going to <https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading> (just google “daily readings” and this will come up), or by purchasing a missal in book form.

Option 2: Pick a scripture of your own to read. Here are a couple samples…

From 1st John: A reading from the First Letter of John (1Jn 4:7-9,11-12), “Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God’s love was revealed among us in this way: God sent is only Son into the world so that we might live through him. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.”

From John’s Gospel: Let us listen to a reading from the Holy Gospel according to John: (Jn 13:34-35) Jesus said, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

**REFLECTION:**

Ask everyone present to share what they think this means. Invite all present to ask questions about what it means. If you understand the truth that is being proclaimed, share examples in your life where you have seen this truth of Scripture play out. If you don’t understand the truth being proclaimed, you can go deeper in prayer and in study or ask someone (maybe even your brilliant pastor). Even those who have been in ministry for many years still may have to consult a Biblical Commentary myself before being confident about the fuller meaning of a Scripture passage, so don’t be afraid to ask.

**CLOSING PRAYER:**

Lord God, we thank you for the gift of love that you have poured out on us in Jesus, your Son. Help us to grow each day as His disciples. Increase our love for one another and renew the relationships between us. May our growing love and kindness be a sign of your love at work in our lives. We make this prayer to you in Jesus’ name. Amen.