

## DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

*Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God we should commit to reading Scripture every day. There are questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and one will be given to you. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number. The number before the colon will tell you the chapter to find. The numbers after the colon are the superscript numbers in your Bible indicating the verses to read.*

### **Monday, Jan 9<sup>th</sup> – Psalm 9:9-10**

This Psalm was written by David. As we may recall, David's early life was not so easy. King Saul wanted him dead. He was hunted more than once during Saul's reign. This happens later in his life as well, when his son Absalom tries to usurp the kingdom from David. Yet these two verses tell us much about him and how he survived. What did David know about the Lord (vs. 9)? This doesn't mean that there will be no troubles or oppression, but that when it does happen, you can find protection in the Lord. You may have to go through it, but you are not alone. Now read verse 10. What does David say God does not do? Who is God faithful to? So if you find yourself facing many troubles, what does David reveal to us about what we should be doing (10b)? Search for God, for God protects and is faithful to those who search. When troubles find you, what do you do first? What should you do differently? Who can come alongside you and help? How does God respond to this search in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?

### **Tuesday, Jan 10<sup>th</sup> – Psalm 14**

Here is another Psalm from David. As we look into seeking God this week, here is another perspective from David. We begin with the problem. What is it (vs. 1)? When we choose to disobey God, we are the fools. So, what is God looking for (vs. 2)? What do the truly wise do? But what does God find (vs. 3)? That includes us. What do evil people do (vss. 4-5)? When we choose to sin, our sin has these consequences. We harm others or even ourselves. But in the end, who will win (vs. 6)? When you are the one seeking God, because of the wickedness happening against you, God hears and responds. When God does respond, what is the result (vs. 7)? Think back at a time when you suffered because of sin. When God responded, how did it feel? How can this encourage you to seek God out more often? How can this encourage and teach you to choose not to sin? Pray today asking God to keep you from sin and to save you from the oppression of being tempted to sin.

### **Wednesday, Jan 11<sup>th</sup> – Proverbs 8:12-21**

Seeking God means seeking God's wisdom and ways. To begin, what does Wisdom tell us about herself (vss. 12-16)? Name some of Wisdom's attributes. Are these not the attributes of God? Verse 17 is considered the pivot verse. It changes from a focus on wisdom to something else. What is the focus of verse 17? For all who pursue this focus, what are the benefits when found (vss. 18-21)? In verse 21, is the wealth that fills our treasuries only money? What other wealth could this mean? Consider your answer from an eternal perspective. How do we know that this is about more than money (vs. 19)? Why do you think seeking wisdom should be a priority for your life? How would it honor God? What might you have to give up (your human wisdom) in order to live into God's wisdom? Ponder over the next few days how often you consider God's wisdom over yours. What adjustments to your ways of thinking and seeking might you need to incorporate?

### **Thursday, Jan 12<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 6:31-34**

Let's do things backwards today. Consider what you seek daily, weekly, and monthly. Do you look for food? What do you seek when a hurricane is coming? When you plan a trip, what are you looking for? If disaster hit us, what things would worry you about the most? Now let's compare your responses to what Jesus says about seeking and what we should seek. What is the first instruction that Jesus gives us (vs 31)? Don't worry. Hmm...sounds too easy, doesn't it? But consider what we learned yesterday in Proverbs about our wisdom and God's wisdom. I think this is a place where seeking God's wisdom would be applied. What is Jesus' rationale for not worrying (vs. 32)? So, we are not supposed be like everyone else, are we? What then will make us different (vs. 33)? Again, how does everything we have learned this week about seeking help teach us to do this? What must we cling to, in order to be obedient? Now go back and look at your answers and consider how you live your life. If the stock market crashed, would you live seeking out God and depending on him or would you panic and start seeking out human wisdom rather than God's? Spend some quiet time considering how much you rely on human wisdom and common sense, rather than seeking out God's wisdom and Kingdom.

**Friday, Jan 13<sup>th</sup> – Colossians 3:1-4**

We finish this week of study on seeking with Paul's letter to the Colossians. I encourage you today to memorize these 4 verses. Bury them deep in your heart so the Holy Spirit can bring them to your memory on a regular basis. It will serve you well. So why these verses? Well, it starts off with Paul telling us what we are to seek out daily. What should we be seeking or setting our sights on (vs. 1)? Verse 2 clarifies this for you. What do you think Paul means by the "things of heaven"? Verse 3 explains Paul's point. Paul does not want us focusing, seeking and striving for the things of the world that in the end fade away. Rather, seek the kingdom things that matter and have an eternal expiration date. This sounds much like Jesus' teaching yesterday. What is the result of pursuing this (vs. 4)? Notice that you don't get the glory, but you do have the blessing of sharing the glory of Christ! Make a short list of three kingdom things you can search for during 2017. Keep it in your Bible, on your fridge, or even on your bathroom mirror, wherever you will see it. Seeking the right things takes practice. Let's make 2017 a year of seeking God's wisdom, guidance and kingdom priorities.

**Saturday, Jan 14<sup>th</sup> – *To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read Matthew 3:13-17***