

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God we should commitment 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, October 24th – Matthew 28:18-20

We end our series on the “One Anothers” with a reminder of why we need to do life together with one another. It comes from Jesus himself. And while we have read these words many times, we seem to struggle putting them into practice and Doing Life Together Groups helps us to do that. We are going to start with verse 19. What are Jesus’ instructions? So, how many disciples have you made? If none, why? After all, this is what Jesus tells his followers to do. Are you a true follower of Jesus? We cannot make disciples if we are not disciples. What else are we instructed by Jesus to do (vs. 20)? We can clearly see that it is not just about “making” disciples, but we are also expected to teach these new disciples as well. But we cannot teach what we do not know. At the beginning of verse 19, almost every translation reads either “Go, therefore” or “Therefore go.” “Therefore” is the reminder to look before what is said. In other words, we need to look at verse 18 to see why 19 is there for. In verse 18, what does Jesus declare. So this making and maturing of disciples is possible because Jesus has been given all authority. And then at the end of verse 20, we see the promise that Jesus is with us continually as we go therefore to make and mature disciples. Can you make a disciple without other people? Can you mature a disciple without other people? Can you become or mature as a follower without other people? Doing Life Together Groups helps you to mature, make and help others mature in their faith. It is the avenue of growth in your walk and faith in Jesus. So what group have you signed up to be in? How might you be blessed and empowered to live into what Jesus tells you what to do.

Tuesday, October 25th – Acts 1:12-14

Today we begin to see the practices of doing life together in the early church. The text today immediately follows Jesus’ ascension (Acts 1:6-11). The disciples, the followers of Jesus, return where after this experience of seeing Jesus ascend (vs. 12)? Note whom the writer says is present (vs. 13)? Who is missing? But these are not the only ones present, who else is present (vs. 13b)? What were they all doing while together (vs. 13a)? They met together and prayed together. Imagine how they must have felt losing Jesus, getting Jesus back and now losing him again. What a roller coaster ride. But they don’t separate from each other rather they come together to pray together which I am sure they found most encouraging. They were “Doing Life Together” through all the twists and turns, ups and downs. This is what helps us to keep going and help keep others going. It is what grows our faith when we are not sure what is going to happen next. We can learn a lot from these brief descriptions about community because they teach us the value in meeting together. Why do we resist gathering together? How could learning to take a break in the action to meet with fellow believers actually sustain in everyday life? Spend some time today praying asking God to show you where you need to plug in more faithfully. Remember to be still and listen for God’s answer.

Wednesday, October 26th – Acts 2:1-13

It is amazing what happens when the people of God gather together. You will read a lot about these experiences this week. Today we read about the birth of the church. The knitting together of God’s people with

the power of the Holy Spirit. Read verse 1-4. Where are the people (vs. 1)? As we read yesterday, this is not the first time, rather we are beginning to see a pattern. What happens while they are gathered (vss. 2-3)? Take some time and consider what that must have looked like and felt. Would you have been frightened? Awe struck? Curious? What has happened (vs. 4)? What was the sign that this was of God’s Holy Spirit and not of their own doing (vs. 4)? What did God do with this commotion and pouring out of His Spirit (vs. 5)? What was the reaction (vss. 7-8)? Where were all these people from (vss. 9-11)? What was the repeated comment? Notice there is a crowd of people coming to see what a small group of people were experiencing. Notice also that this small group operating in the power of the Holy Spirit is influencing the larger group. What was the response to this (vss. 12-13)? That is very much like today. Some folks will be curious and listen. Others will just dismiss the whole thing. Do you believe the Holy Spirit is still working today? Do you believe there is power in the Spirit? So far, do we not see power in groups, both large and small. What if God wants to change the world through you? Does that not require you to be around people, in large groups and small groups? How could your life be different if you began Doing Life Together in the Holy Spirit’s power in a small group?

Thursday, October 27th – Acts 4:23-31

Now the church has been expanding and having influence around the Temple. Peter and John had been arrested but just set free. Where do they go (vs. 23)? What happens next (vs. 24)? Read their prayer all the way through (vss. 25-30). What are the remembering from their past as God’s chosen people (vss. 25-26)? People just want to just thwart God’s purposes. Are they successful? After remembering these things what is the observation they have (vs. 27)? Pause for a moment and consider who it is that tries to foil God’s work of the church. Sometimes the church itself has missed the mark and created havoc in the world. The end this prayer with a request. What do they ask God to do (vss. 29-30)? Note that they do not ask for protection or for the problem to go away. They ask for boldness, healing power, signs and wonders. Why do you think they ask for these things? What can we learn from this prayer? How did God respond (vs. 31)? How is that response both affirming and confirming? Remember, this is a group of God’s people gathered together, sharing, praying and asking God for boldness, healing power, signs and wonders. What if we started praying like that in groups? What might be different? What might be changed for the good. What within you would change?

Friday, October 28th – Hebrews 10:23-25 (26-39)

There are many good and healthy reasons as believers, disciples of Jesus we should be gathering in small groups with each Doing Life Together. The writer of Hebrews helps us recap some of these reason. What does verse 24 tell us to do? On some days this is easier read than done. Yet when we do life together, on those bad days when we struggle, others can remind us of this truth. What are we instructed to do next (vs. 24)? We cannot even live this out if we do not gather together. And what a blessing this is if we do gather and obediently live this way with each other. We can see that forgetting to meet together was already being forgotten (vs. 25). Why are they to gather together (vs. 25)? I encourage you to read verses 26-39. Doing Life Together will help each of us from wandering away and continuing to sin against God. We should all want to see others succeed in their walks in faith and with Jesus. This can only happen when we gather with others. That is why God put us on earth together. So which group will begin or be part of this year?

Saturday, October 29th – To prepare for tomorrow’s worship, please read Isaiah 6:8