

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. Our Lenten meditations are based on Warren Wiersbe's book "Jesus in the Present Tense."

Monday, March 21st – Psalm 1:1-3; John 14:6

This week we look at the "I AM" saying that causes the most debate and trouble outside, as well as inside the church. To declare Jesus as the Way, the Truth and the Life, limits the choices we have to find God, who is the truth, and to receive the promise of eternal life. This is very politically incorrect in our current culture. Yet it is that I AM that has saved lost sinners like us. The church needs to begin to reclaim its call that Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. The church will experience revival when we claim—and live—this truth. Our Psalm today gives us a recipe for revival. Consider how Jesus' declaration fulfills these words. Verse 1 describes the ways of Jesus and the way we should walk. Verse 2 points to learning and meditating on the Law (the word, or instruction) of God to learn the truth. This leads to the life that Jesus declares we receive from him (verse 3). What would it be like if we followed the ways of Jesus, learned the truth, and lived the life? How could that change our community both inside and outside the church?

Tuesday, March 22nd – John 14:1-7

Today we look at the text surrounding Jesus' I AM statement. Jesus is consoling his disciples as he is preparing them for what is going to happen in the hours ahead. What is the promise he makes in verses 2 and 3? Where exactly is Jesus promising to take us? In the Gospel of John, heaven is a real place—a place where God's house is, a place where Jesus came down from to earth. What does Jesus say in verse 4 and what is the response (vs. 5)? How are we like Thomas? All the disciples were confused and trying to understand. Jesus gives them the answer in verses 6 and 7. What exactly is Jesus telling us about him and the Father? How does this help us understand how Jesus is the way to the Father? How does this explain how Jesus is THE way, not just "a" way? Reflect today on how you would share with someone why Jesus is the way. As you work on how you would share this, make sure you have taken the way and not gotten off track or gotten lost, as Thomas feared.

Wednesday, March 23rd – John 17:13-21; John 1:1-5, 14

Today we look at Jesus' declaration of "I AM"...the truth. Today's passage is the farewell prayer that Jesus prayed before he was arrested. If you have time, read the entire prayer (verses 1-26). Let's start with verses 20-21. For whom is Jesus praying (vs. 20)? Make a list of Jesus' requests in verse 21. Now let's go back and read vs. 13-17. What did Jesus give us (vs. 14)? Now jump to verse 17. What does Jesus say there about the Word? Add to the discussion now John 1:1-5 and 14. Who is the Word (vs. 14)? What is the Word responsible for? After reading these passages, how is that Jesus can declare "I AM the Truth?" How has looking at all these passages clarified how Jesus is truth? How does learning the Word lead us to truth? Pray today thanking God that a little more of His truth was revealed to you today.

Thursday, March 24th – Mark 14:12-26 (*Maundy Thursday Worship – 7:00 pm The Living Last Supper*)

We step away today from the study of the I AM's to journey through Holy Week. Today is Maundy or Holy Thursday. It is the last Passover celebration Jesus shares with his disciples. Read verses 12-16. What are Jesus' instructions to the disciples? When did Passover begin and who was present (vs. 17)? What shocking news does Jesus share with the men (vs. 18)? How do each of the men respond (vs. 19)? What does Jesus say to them in response to their question as to who it can be (vss. 20-21)? In verses 22-24, Jesus takes the bread of Passover and the Cup of Wine and gives them new meaning—a new exodus from slavery, the slavery to sin. How does this revision to the original Passover meaning apply to us today? After the meal, where do the men go (vs. 26)? Tonight we will gather at this table and hear from the disciples their thoughts and response to Jesus' comment that one of them will betray him. Consider today how your thoughts or actions betray Jesus. Where do you reject his authority in your life? Where do you want to make the choices of how things should go or what is right for your life? Where does your sin betray the one who will save you?

Friday, March 25th – John 19:1-37 (*Good Friday Worship – 7:00 pm Service of Shadows*)

Today is Good Friday and the cross looms before us. Read the text completely a couple of times, letting the words and descriptions wash over you. Who are you in the story? Are you the priests who reject Jesus as the Son of God and ruler of your life? Are you Pilate who knows Jesus is innocent, but power is more important? Are you one of the soldiers who beat Jesus, because it's your job? Are you in the crowd crying, "Crucify him! Crucify him?" Are you John, standing at the foot of the cross taking care of things? Are you Mary, Jesus' mother, weeping at the feet of her son? Who are you in the story? And why does what Jesus go through matter to you today? What sins of yours has Jesus taken away and freed you from suffering? As you come to the cross tonight, consider what things you have heard these past 7 weeks and where God has pierced your heart. What sins do you know you need to nail to the cross? Where do you need forgiveness? Where do you need Christ's blood to flow so you may be cleansed? What darkness do you need to be led out of into the light?

Saturday, March 26th – *To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read John 19:38-42 and know the light is coming.*

