

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God we should commit 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, August 15th – Romans 6:1-14

As we continue our study on grace this week, we answer the question, “How do we know we have it?” Each day will present a way to know you have grace. We begin with Paul’s letter to the Romans. As you read verse 1, it is actually in response to 5:20-21. So do we just keep on sinning (vs. 2)? What is the reason behind Paul’s “No” answer (vss. 3-4)? So what does the “death” (immersion of water) in baptism represent (vss. 5-7)? What does coming up out of the water represent (vss. 8-11)? Our baptisms represent that we are dead to our sins and no longer enslaved by our sinful nature. We are raised up in the Messiah as a new creature, free from the power of sin. Because of our baptism and what it represents, what does Paul tell us to do (vss. 12-13)? And why are we able to do this (vs. 14)? Last week we looked at the fact that grace is God’s giving himself, his righteousness to us. We cannot ever be made right by living under the law. But we can be made right by God’s grace. But does that mean we should just keep living in sin? According to Paul, should we or should we not be making the effort to live into our new identity? How does God’s grace through Jesus and the Holy Spirit enable us to do so? Now pause to consider how God’s grace is assuring you that you are his, saved and redeemed and made right because of His grace – not what you do, but by what has been done for you and is being done in you. Let that blessed assurance wash over you today and strive to live in grace.

Tuesday, August 16th – Romans 8:12-17

As discussed on Sunday, God’s grace makes us his children. This is a promise and theme of the New Testament writings that confirms we are living in and under grace. Paul speaks about how we know because of God’s Spirit dwelling within us. What does Paul say (vs. 14)? What indicators does Paul give us to know if we are the sons and daughters of God (vss. 12-13)? What kind of spirit did we receive that affirms this in us (vs. 15)? And what affirmation do we have of this (vs. 16)? And if we are the “children of God” then what exactly does that mean (vs. 17)? What suffering do you think Paul is speaking of (refer back to verses 12-13)? What will be the reward from suffering (vs. 17)? Can we have the reward

without the suffering? How does this explanation of grace affect you? Do you deserve to be called a child of God? Do you deserve God's Holy Spirit dwelling in you? Grace is God's giving us the Holy Spirit to transform us and affirm in us we are the children of God—his amazing grace in action. Look in the mirror sometime today and remind yourself, though undeserved, you are a child of God. Then let God's Holy Spirit of grace and truth affirm that statement in your heart, mind and soul. See what happens in your day as you begin to live into that identity.

Wednesday, August 17th – Colossians 2:6-15

Today we continue to answer the question “How do we know we have grace?” Faith is an avenue of that blessed assurance that you have grace in your life. But what you have faith in matters. What does Paul say our faith should be in (vss. 6-7)? What will grow when our faith is rooted in Jesus (vs. 7)? Now Paul offers a warning to the Colossians. What is it (vs. 8)? What empty philosophies and high sounding nonsense do we have in the world today? Why is what Christ taught superior to all of that (vs. 9)? And because of who Christ is, what does that mean for you (vs. 10)? How does Christ make you complete (vss. 11-12)? What did he cut away? What does your baptism represent? In verse 13, what was your pre-circumcision status? What is your post-circumcision status now (vs. 14)? Consider today how this applies to your life. What spiritual circumcision did you experience (what sin has Christ cut out of your life removing it from you forever)? Consider the changes in your life. This is affirmation of God's grace in you. Do you know that you know that you know Christ's truth and does your life overflow with thankfulness? Then you have God's grace in you.

Thursday August 18th – 1 John 3:14-20 and 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

One tell-tale sign of God's grace in your life is the way you love. You cannot love without God's love in you. Read 1 John 3:14-15. How do you know if you have God's loving grace in you or not? How do we know real love (vs. 15)? How do we show real love (vss. 15-19)? What happens when we mess this up (vs. 20)? So what does love look like in action? For this we turn to 1 Corinthians 13:4-7. What is and is not love? Now read this passage again and put your name in place of the word “love” or “it”. Which of these statements were true? Which need work? How do these passages affirm that you have God's grace in you? How does 1 John 3:20 affirm that even if you are not perfect, God's got it? Spend some time in prayer today asking God to fill you with his love so that you may love more faithfully today. It would be a good thing to begin to memorize 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 too.

Friday, August 19th – 2 Corinthians 13:5-6 and John 14:25-26

We finish this week off with Paul's words to the Corinthians. While we don't know everything that had been going on, we do know that Paul is defending his authority as apostle and correcting them on their behaviors. What does Paul call them to do (vs. 5)? What should the test prove about the Corinthians (and us)? What should it prove about Paul (vs. 6)? We are to examine ourselves. God's grace works in that, too, as we see in the John passage. What does Jesus say God is going to do (vs. 26)? What will the Holy Spirit (the helper) do for us? How does this tie together with examining ourselves? How will the Holy Spirit work in that examination process? Spend time today examining yourself. Do you see grace in your life? Do you see God giving himself for you through Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the church, and through all other avenues of your life? Where might you have missed observing God's grace? How might you be more attentive? Stay quiet for a while and allow the Holy Spirit to affirm and reassure you of God's grace—God himself dwelling within you and loving you.

Saturday, August 20th – *To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.*