

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, September 26th – Matthew 6:7-15

This week our “one another” focus is to be kind, compassionate and forgiving. All three of these “one another” commands again roots in both the Old and the New Testaments. We start this week by looking at Jesus’ teaching on forgiveness. Read the entire text. How does forgiveness look in the Lord’s prayer (vs. 12)? Note that after the prayer Jesus elaborates on one point in the prayer. What is that point (vss. 14-15)? What does Jesus say about forgiveness? Why would this be important for believers to practice with other believers? Why do you think it is important to hear the words “You are forgiven, in the name of Jesus”? How does that help you when you are the offender needing forgiveness? How does that help you when you are offering the forgiveness because you were the offended? Spend some time in prayer today asking God whom you may need to forgive and from whom you may need forgiveness. Then address the matter and don’t wait. God will be with you and the outcome will be reconciliation with God and perhaps with others.

Tuesday, September 27th – Matthew 18:21-35

Building on yesterday’s lesson on forgiveness, we will tie in being kind and compassionate as well today. As we begin, we see Peter asking Jesus an important question. What is it (vs. 21)? What is Jesus’ answer (vs. 22)? Note Jesus’ response does not mean when you reach the 71st or 491st time that all bets are off and you can stop. The numbers mean we must continually forgive. To explain this to Peter, Jesus tells a story. What happens in the first part of the story (vss. 23-27)? Where do you see kindness? Where do you see compassion? Where do you see forgiveness? Now read verses 28-30. Where do you see kindness? Where do you see compassion? Where do you see forgiveness? What did the observers think (vs. 31)? When we act like the servant, others see it. What is the lesson Jesus is teaching (vss. 32-33)? What happened to the unforgiving servant (vs. 34)? What does Jesus say will happen to those of us who will not forgive (vs. 35)? Where is the forgiveness to stem from within in us? Forgiveness stems from compassion and kindness. When we can see the compassion and kindness for us leading to our being forgiven, then we should see others with the same kindness and compassion which leads to our ability to forgive from the heart. Sometimes that ability to see that comes from others who will in loving kindness and compassion point it out to us. Whom are you having difficulty forgiving? A Doing Life Together Group can help you find the kindness and compassion you need to lovingly forgive as you have been forgiven. How would your life be if you could be helped to be forgiving of those whom you didn’t think you would ever forgive?

Wednesday, September 28th – Mark 11:22-26

Today we will turn to Mark and another teaching on forgiveness. What is Jesus teaching the disciples about in this passage (vss. 22-24)? Do you think Jesus is speaking about having bigger houses, new cars, closets overflowing when he taught this? What do you think Jesus means when he says we can move mountains? Consider what mountain Jesus is asking us to move. What have we learned about prayer thus far this week? So how would having faith in God and the Lord’s prayer teach us about what we should be praying for? How does this show God’s kindness and compassion? Jesus also teaches us that can get in the way of answered prayers. What needs to happen (vs. 25)? Notice the order of forgiveness. You must not hold a grudge but forgive. And when you do, God will forgive your sins, which were probably tied up with your decision not to forgive others. Consider how this call to forgive and be forgiven once again shows the kindness and compassion of God upon you. How can having faith help you to be able to show this kind of kindness, compassion and forgiveness to others? How can others help you if you struggle with this to get to the other side in the power of the Holy Spirit? What would be different in your faith and life if you learned this lesson?

Thursday, September 29th – Luke 17:1-4

As we move on with our one another this week, we see Jesus teaching once again on forgiveness directly and kindness and compassion indirectly. Read verses 1-2. What is the warning of Jesus to his listeners (or readers in our case)? What action would not be considered kind or compassionate? This action is so bad that Jesus says it would be better to do what instead (vs. 2)? Now read verse 3. What are we to do if someone in the community sins (vs. 3)? Have you ever thought of rebuking someone as kindness or compassionate? Can it be? Jesus rebukes his followers. Did he do so from a stance of kindness and compassion? Did he do so because he cared? But rebuking is not the final action. If our rebuke leads to repentance, what should we offer (vs.3)? How does this show more kindness and compassion? Now read verse 4. How often are we expected to forgive? Why do you think that is? Who forgives you that often? How does our learning to do this for one another emulate the kindness and compassion Christ offers us every day, all day long? Christ rebukes us of our sins because sin can hurt us. And Christ forgives us our sin when we repent, because of his kindness and compassion and willingness to give us a fresh start. Pray today and ask the Holy Spirit where you may need to rebuke someone who is sinning or forgive one who has tried to repent to you. Put kindness, compassion and forgiveness into your day and see what happens.

Friday, September 30th – Colossians 3:12-15

We close this week looking at Paul's letter to the Colossians. It is the last passage because it summarizes and elaborates on what Jesus has been teaching us all week. Read verse 12. What are we to do? Why are we to do this? Tenderhearted is being compassionate. Note that you cannot be kind or compassionate from a position of pride, which is why the other items are listed as well. What else does Paul call us to do to one another and why (vs. 13)? What else should we clothe ourselves with, according to Paul and why (vss. 14-15)? Can you do or practice any of these things on your own without other people? Notice that these instructions are to be practiced and lived out in community with other believers. We need to learn to do this with each other before we can practice on those who reject our way of life. Consider today if Saint James learned to really live these things out within our community and by accepting those who want to learn about what we already possess. You are encouraged to memorize this passage. It will take some work, but burying these words in your heart will help us to Do Life Together in a more meaningful way. God's Word will direct and guide us.

Saturday, October 1st – *To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read James 5:16.*