

## 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 of the book. 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, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 26:17-30**

This week we will look at the Lord's Supper with a focus on who is present and what is happening. We will begin with Matthew's text. In verses 17-19, we see instructions on preparations. Who was responsible for making the arrangements and with whom were they to make them? As we move on, who is there with Jesus (vs. 20)? Jesus drops a bomb on them in verse 21. What does he reveal? How do each of the twelve respond (vs. 22)? Jesus answers their questions in verse 23-24. Who is the guilty one and what is the difference between him and Jesus? Note who finally asks, "Am I the one?" (vs. 25). How does Jesus respond to him (vs. 26)? Now read verses 27-30. Jesus is instituting the New Covenant from the Old Covenant. What are the two parts (vss. 26-28)? Now pause to consider again who is at the table. The betrayer of Jesus, those who will abandon Jesus, and the one who will deny Jesus. And yet, Jesus offers this to all of them knowing this. What does this tell us about who is invited to the table today? Who needs this grace of God, even if they are not perfect or even saved yet? How do you need this meal of grace to work in your life today and tomorrow?

### **Tuesday, Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> – Mark 14:12-26**

Today we look at Mark's telling of the Last Supper. As you read today, consider the slight variations from yesterday. We begin again with the preparations. What differences do you see between today and yesterday? As you move to verse 17, we see Jesus arrives with the Twelve, but it does not indicate that only the Twelve are present. Nevertheless, Jesus is at a table with them. Now read verses 18-21. Note that Jesus' statement is the same and the question by the disciples is the same, but Judas is not singled out. Continuing with verses 22-25, we see again the transition from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant. While the words "for the forgiveness of sins" are not used after sacrifice, what do we know about sacrifices and sin from our study in Leviticus? What do the sacrifices do for us? It is not inconceivable that the owner of the house's family was present and sharing the Last Supper with Jesus and the 12. While they are not part of the story, what does that indicate about who is present at the table? When we look at the Table in the front of the church, who do we know is missing from the partaking? Whom do we need to invite? Pray today, asking God to open your eyes to whom He is calling you to invite.

### **Wednesday, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> – Luke 22:7-23**

We now move to Luke's version of the Last Supper. Now keep in mind that Luke is writing to gentiles, specifically Theophilus. We begin with the preparations for the Last Supper/Passover meal and they are really quite similar to Mark's version. But what follows in Luke contains the same information, but in a different order. What is the first thing Jesus says to his disciples (vss. 14-16)? This usually follows the instituting of the New Covenant. But in Luke it precedes everything. Now read verses 17-20. How many cups are given? When is the bread given? This would have been the cup of suffering from the Passover liturgy. Next comes the bread. The cup after the supper may very well have been the Elijah cup at the end of Passover. The New Covenant is established from the Old Covenant. Again, notice the blood offering that the Jews and the gentiles would have understood for the sins committed. It wasn't until verse 21 that we see Jesus explain that He will be betrayed. And as we read verse 23, notice that the disciples do not ask if it is them personally, but rather, they try to figure out who among them would do such a thing. If you feel ambitious today, read verses 24-30. Luke shows Jesus taking the fact of betrayal and using it for a teaching moment. How does this teaching moment relate to the Last Supper? The table is not about honor but about service. Whom are we to serve? Who is invited to sit at the table?

### **Thursday, Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> – Luke 24:13-34**

The Gospel of Luke has two Lord's Suppers included in its text. Today we will read the second encounter and how this means of bread and wine can change everything. This text is post-resurrection and takes place on Sunday, as it would have been after the Sabbath. What is happening (vss. 13-15)? What had God done (vs. 16)? As they walk what does Jesus ask them (vs. 17)? How do they respond to Jesus' question? Do you sense passion in their retelling of the story? Do you feel their pain and disappointment? Notice how Jesus responds in verses 25-27. These were educated folks about what the Old Testament said about the Messiah. Have you ever considered what Jesus might call us foolish about today? Calling us out on our unbelief? But notice that Jesus also takes the time to explain, so they could understand. What happens next (vs. 28)? As we continue, what happened during dinner? Notice that the words used to describe the scene are the same ones used in yesterday's text. What is the reaction to the breaking of bread (vss. 31-34)? There are a couple things happening here. First, their eyes were open and they recognized Jesus. Second, there was a burning (think fire) in their hearts. Third, this was too good to just sit on, so within an hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem to tell the others. Here are some questions to ponder today. When you take communion, are your eyes opened to see Jesus? Do you sense a burning in your heart when you hear the Word of God? And who are you eager to share this with? Finally, how might the Word, sharing and breaking of bread open someone else's eyes who may have never seen before? What might be different in you and in your seeing after this devotional?

### **Friday, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> – 1 Corinthians 11:17-34**

We finish this week with the text from Sunday. Now Paul is writing this letter to respond to specific situations that have been brought to his attention. What is the first matter (vss. 17-19)? Disagreements happen in church, don't they? What is the next matter Paul addresses (vss. 20-22)? The church is not acting like a family but rather, suffering from social class wars. Does Paul approve? From here Paul launches into a teaching moment about the Lord's Supper (vss. 23-25)? What is his point (vs. 26)? Next comes Paul's instructions on what the Corinthians should do as they prepare for the supper. What are his instructions and warnings (vss. 27-34)? Here are John Wesley's notes on this text, "The communicant's preparatory examination commanded in verse 28 is twofold. First, he should consider carefully the deepest meaning of the rite in relation to his personal hope of salvation. Second, he should diligently, prayerfully, and honestly consider his personal motives, attitudes, conduct, and commitment to his Lord. If repentance or recommitment is necessary, he should give serious attention to them before participating." This is why we confess our sins and participate in the Great Thanksgiving, reminding us how this all came about and what it means regarding our salvation, not just after we die, but here and now on earth. In verses 31-32, what words of hope and love does Paul offer? Verses 33-34 are Paul's final instructions on the subject. Imagine if the church universally practiced this reverence when taking Holy Communion. Imagine how this unites us all as one. Imagine the one who is yet to become a believer. How could this bring them into the fold? What will be different next time you share in Communion? How will you be more reverent?

### **Saturday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read Numbers 1:1-14.**