

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, November 7th – Luke 22:24-30

This week we are going to look at sainthood. What is a saint? Who is a saint? What does a saint's life look like? Today we begin with Jesus and we will answer our third question. What is the dispute amongst the disciples (vs. 24)? Notice how Jesus responds by comparing the world's ways and the way his followers should act (vss. 25-26). How does he explain to them how this should look (vs. 27)? Jesus' point is that he is worthy to sit at the head of the table, but where does he find himself? What will be the result of the disciples living like this and why (vss. 28-30)? Consider where you fit into this teaching. Are you one who believes they should be seated at the table? Are you one who is willing to serve, no matter how lowly the task may be? Are you living in the worldly way or the Kingdom's way? Have you ever used your serving as a way to exert power over people and to claim prestige? Which do you think emulates the life of a saint in the church? Spend time examining your motives. Where would Jesus say you stand more often? What might need to change to help you serve as a saint?

Tuesday, November 8th – Romans 16:1-16

Today we will look at the question "Who is a saint?" Paul ends his letter to the Romans with some answers for that question. So let's see who Paul lists in this letter and why. Who is the first person mentioned (vs. 1)? Notice it is a woman leader. What does Paul ask of the church regarding Phoebe and why (vs. 2)? Who else does Paul state to greet (vs. 3)? Prisca is believed to be Priscilla from Acts. This is a couple. Why should they be greeted and who else should be greeted with them (vss. 4-5a)? Now read the rest of 5 through 15. Who was to be greeted, encouraged, accepted and why? What do each of these folks have in common? At the end of verse 15, the literal translation is "and all the saints who are with them." Some translations do not use "saints" but another description, but the word in the Greek still means saints. Notice for Paul, the saints are those who love and serve the Lord, impacting the lives of others. Look at your life. Who are you leading to Christ? How are you impacting the world for Christ? Are you living as a saint?

Wednesday, November 9th – Hebrews 6:4-12

Now we look at the first question – what is a saint? As we begin reading, what is not a saint (vss. 4-6)? Those believers who reject Jesus after professing their faith are not saints. In fact, what point does the writer make (vs. 6)? To better explain what a saint is or isn't, what is the illustration used in verses 7-8? While speaking truth, what encouragement does the writer offer (vs. 9)? What is the basis for this encouragement (vs. 10)? Note in verse 10b, once again the literal translation is "by caring for the saints," which is what is meant by "other believers" or "God/His people." So to answer what a saint is according to Hebrews, it is a person who does not turn away from the good news of Christ, who loves God, and loves and serves the saints of God. What is the writer's advice, so that the readers/hearers can grow and continue as saints (vss. 11-12)? How does this text apply to you? How are you loving God and loving and serving the saints of God's church both

here locally and abroad? How are you being loved and served? Spend some time in prayer today thanking God for giving you the opportunity to love and serve and the humility to let others love and serve you.

Thursday, November 10th – Colossians 1:1-8

We now look at Paul's letter to the Colossians to see what defines who is a saint. So many people who are believers do not see themselves as saints, even though God does. And we again run into the need to explain that in verse 2, some translations translate "saint" using other words, but the word is literally "saints." How does Paul describe himself, Timothy and the church in Colossae (vss. 1-2)? Now let's look at Paul's prayer which substantiates why this group of folks are called "saints." What are the first three things that Paul declares about the Colossian church (vss. 4-5)? These are three primary definitions of who is a saint. Now continue by reading verse 6. What else does Paul say about the Good News and how it relates to the church of saints? Lifechanging news is news with an impact. Saints live in transformation – they live new lives. Now read verses 7-8. What final bench mark does Paul reiterate? Love is foundational to everything. Notice that in this case it is love for the saints. While we need to love everyone, we practice on those who are saints with us. It is with the saintly believers that we learn patience, kindness, goodness, self-control and so on. It is when we develop these things that we are truly ready to go out and love the world. Consider how Doing Life Together Groups facilitate your saintly status. How do they promote saintly living in accordance with this passage? Are you living into Paul's understandings of a saint? How can the Holy Spirit help you to grow even more and to grow more deeply?

Friday, November 11th – Hebrews 11:32 -- 12:1-2 (reading all of chapter 11 may help)

We conclude this week with a look at the saints who have gone before us. Hebrews 12:1 begins with "Therefore," which means we need to look back to see why it is "there for" and to understand who is in the great cloud of witnesses (or saints) which surrounds us. Now all of Chapter 11 tells us who makes up this great cloud, but beginning at verses 32-38, we learn who makes up this cloud of witnesses (saints). What did they experience/do that put them in this category (vs. 39)? But what did God hold back and why (vss. 39b-40)? This leads us back to Chapter 12. Now that we know who is in the great cloud of witnesses/saints, what does the writer call those of us reading this to do (vs. 1b)? How do we do this (vs. 2)? What are we to imitate? Does this indicate a life of no problems and perfect living? Consider today those who ran the race before you and whose witness helped enter you into the race. What was it about their faith – the light of Christ shining through them – that attracted you? How do you live as a saint? Is there a light shining through you into the world so others see your light and desire to have it for themselves? You are called to sainthood because you believe and have faith that Christ is who he says he is and did everything needed for your salvation. Therefore, live as the saint you are called to be. Let Christ's light flood your life, so you are the beacon that leads others to Him. Praise God for you, dear saint!

Saturday, November 12th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read Leviticus 16:20-22. Don't forget – our 35th Anniversary celebration is this afternoon at 4:00 pm. See you then!