

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, March 5th – John 8:1-11

As we look at sinners being reclaimed by Jesus, consider our story today. Who is the sinner in this story? Maybe a better question would be who is not a sinner in this story? As you read the story, see how Jesus offers each sinner an opportunity to repent and be reclaimed for God. How does each group/character in the story respond to this? What indicates that repentance may have taken place? Do we know for sure? Who does know if repentance ever took place? What does Jesus tell the woman at the end? When does Jesus tell you that? When does Jesus reclaim you, the sinner? Spend time throughout this week listening to what Jesus would say to you regarding sin. What do you need to repent of, so you can be reclaimed and renewed?

Tuesday, March 6th – Matthew 11:16-24

This passage is Jesus speaking to the crowds who were standing around as Jesus was speaking to the disciples of John the Baptist. There had already been much debate about John being a prophet, because the religious leaders rejected him as such. Then Jesus shows up on the scene and hangs out with those who everyone knew needed to repent. So, he was rejected, too. Jesus goes on to use this illustration of a children's nursery rhyme to point to the fickleness of humanity. We want a great prophet, as long as they don't tell us we are bad. And we want a great savior, as long as the savior looks like me and acts like I think a savior should act. Do you sometimes try to re-create God and His will in your own mind to how you think God should act and respond to a situation? How do these opposites point to our sinfulness? How does it point to God's amazing graciousness? Does John's message to repent and turn to God offend you? Does Jesus' sacrifice on a cross, beaten the way you should be beaten, punished for your sins, offend you? When do you offend God by playing children's games, so as to not be held accountable for your sins? If you're not sure, spend time praying. The Spirit will show you.

Wednesday, March 7th – Luke 15:1-10

There are two stories in this passage that describe the purpose of God through Jesus. He is out searching for the lost souls. What does this story teach us about how God feels about sinners who repent and "get found?" Take some time and consider who are the "lost" in our own community. Be specific with your answers. Who do you know is lost? Why are they lost? How were you like them, "lost" and away from God? How can you help someone be found? How can you still be found today by Jesus? How can we rejoice with those who are found? How can we encourage and delight in Heaven's party? Pray today, asking the Spirit to put in you the path of someone lost. Then ask for the Spirit to use you as a tool in their being found.

Thursday, March 8th – Romans 5:6-11

Reclaiming sinners has been the plan since the fall of humanity. God loves us so much that he doesn't want to give up on us. He made us to be in relationship with us. But our sin is the problem. So God, always prepared, put a plan into place so to be able to reclaim those who wish to be. And God, knowing we could not fix ourselves, sent Christ. How does Paul describe God's plan? What are the key elements of the plan? What are the results of the plan when a sinner is reclaimed? Is anyone exempt from the plan? Verse 11 talks about the two parts of the plan. Restoration comes through what part? Salvation comes through what part? How are the two tied together? How do they come into play for our recognition of Holy Week (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday). Can you have Easter without Good Friday? Are Good Friday's benefits in effect without Easter?

Friday, March 9th – Matthew 21:28-31

We close this week looking at a parable Jesus taught. Consider your walk – which son are you? Do you say "Yes, Lord" and then not follow through? Do you object and then go out to harvest the sinners God has prepared? Or are you both of these sons, depending on the day/week/month/year of your life? Now read verses 31 and 32 again. What is Jesus' point to the Pharisees and Sadducees? What does this teaching say to us in this generation? Who in our community will enter before we do? Why would that be? When do we behave like the Pharisees or Sadducees? Consider the lost sheep and lost coin stories and Paul's teachings from yesterday. How do they tie into those who receive the Good News and live it? What does this say about sinners reclaimed? Write down times you said yes and then did nothing. Then write down when you said no, but acted obediently in the end. Ask for forgiveness for those times you did nothing. Rejoice and thank God for the opportunities to act obediently, when you started off disobedient. Finally, ask God to reclaim you today and use you in the seeking of the lost, bringing them to the cross of Jesus, where they can be reclaimed and also saved. After all, that is our job as the church, to go and make disciples of Jesus Christ from those who are lost, by helping them get found! But remember, Jesus does the reclaiming and saving.

Saturday, March 10th – Prepare for tomorrow by reading John 12:1-6.