

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. 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, Sept. 4th – Mark 10:35-45 (Serve)

We will start this week looking at Compassionate Service. We will use yesterday's text from Mark, which deals with two things—what service looks like and how it is to be done. The lesson on serving starts with a question—What do James and John ask (vss. 35-37)? To sit at the right and left hands means to sit in places of great power; power second only to the King. How does Jesus respond to this request (vs. 38)? What does this tell you about the rewards this power and prestige will provide? How do James and John respond to Jesus' question (vs. 39a)? The remainder of verses 39-40 is Jesus' commentary on what will happen in John's and James' future. What happens after this conversation (vs. 40)? Jesus takes the other disciples' indignation or anger and makes it a teaching moment about serving and position. So how do leaders in the world act (vs. 42)? Is this what we see today in political realms, social realms and even in church? As you read in verse 43, how do true leaders lead and help? How is that the opposite of the world? (Answer that question specifically.) To be considered number one, what place should we be in (vs. 44)? We are to be servants like Jesus. What does that look like (vs. 45)? What does true compassionate service look like, according to Jesus? And how are we to accomplish it? Consider our outreach activities, such as Bags of Hope, The Haven, Red Bird Mission. How does serving humbly look in these opportunities?

Tuesday, Sept. 5th – Acts 6:1-7 (Serve)

As we continue our study on serving, we see the early church's need for those willing to serve. What is the problem that arose in the early church (vs. 1)? Seems like some things never change, doesn't it? What is the concern of the disciples/apostles (vs. 2)? They had their job of service and the wisdom to know they could not do it all. So, what was the suggestion as to how to fix this dilemma (vs. 3)? What are the requirements for the seven that were to be selected? Notice it is not just warm bodies, but there were other expectations as well. What would this allow the apostles to do (vs. 4)? Who was chosen (vs. 5)? Do any of these names sound familiar? How did they get started in their ministries (vs. 6)? What is the significance of "laying hands" on them? On Sunday, we will lay hands on our Red Bird Mission Team, commissioning them for the work they have been called to do. Now that we have added more people into the ministry of serving and serving in different ways, what happens (vs. 7)? When we serve, as we are called and gifted, the message spreads and more believers are added to the community. So where are you serving? Are you being a bold witness when you serve, sharing your story? Are you humble and compassionate, showing respect? What has God done through your service?

Wednesday, Sept. 6th – 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 (Teamwork/Serve)

Today we will transition from Compassionate Service to Teamwork. Truthfully, these two go hand-in-hand. When we become baptized believers in the faith, the Holy Spirit gives each of us gifts. These gifts are the way we are hard-wired to serve the body and the world. What does verse 7 tell us about these gifts? How are the gifts given out by the Holy Spirit (vss. 8-10)? What are your spiritual gifts? If you do not know, we will be giving everyone a "test" or "inventory" of spiritual gifts over the course of the next year. This opportunity will help you learn how God has "hardwired" you to serve. Who alone decides who gets what gift (vs. 11)? Going back to verse 7, who are your gifts going to serve? Who has the gifts that are going to assist and serve you? This basically boils down to the fact that we need each other. We are not complete and whole without one another. This is by God's design. In order to be whole and fruitful as the body of Christ, we need the Holy Spirit and we need to work with each other, using our gifts together. We are to serve in teams! What team are you serving on? Where are you gifted, so you can get connected and experience the fullness that Christ has for you?

Thursday, Sept. 7th – Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (Teamwork)

Teamwork is not a New Testament concept. It has existed from the beginning. *God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them* (Genesis 1:27). We started as a team of three—God, man and woman. This theme is carried throughout the Scriptures. Today we will look at King Solomon's writing on the subject. What does Solomon teach right off the bat (vs. 9)? What is more likely, if there are two people? What is another perk of being on a team (vs. 10)? Remember the commercials of older people laying on the floor, crying out, "Help, I've fallen and I can't get up!" This is the visual of Solomon's point. What is another perk of being on a team (vs. 11)? Companionship is a form of warmth as well, helping us to keep our hearts from growing cold. But there is still another very important perk, and that is found in verse 12. Reading this verse, most of us think of true battles or fights, either in real life or on TV shows or in movies. But think about the real battles we fight—the fight against temptation, sin, and the other battles of life. How can having another person covering your back keep you on the straight and narrow? Solomon has an even better suggestion at the end of verse 12. What is it? Did you know that Saint James requires teams of three people for ministries to be launched? If we do not have a team of 3 working on any given project, then we will stop doing the project. It is because what Solomon teaches is true and necessary. God designed us to be in teams. It works best that way. So whose team are you on? What Doing Life Together Group are you in? And if you are not on a team or in a Doing Life Together group, why not? You just learned that this is how God designed it. So, let's trust that God knows best and get connected.

Friday, Sept. 8th – Mark 6:7-13 (Teamwork)

We finish this week with a look at Jesus' use of teams. In fact, Jesus did small groups, large groups, and teams. So what does Jesus do in verse 7? Notice that they are sent in teams of 2. No one is sent out by themselves. What are the teams to do? We learn from this that being on teams is for the purpose of serving as well as for companionship and protection. What are the next instructions from Jesus (vs. 8-9)? Why do you think they are instructed on what not to bring? Who does this make them rely on? Does that not make God part of the team? Now read verse 10. Why does Jesus tell them to stay in the same house? What if that house is the home of one of the poorest in the town? What if the rich guy invites you? What are the dangers of moving from house to house? And what advice does Jesus give when things go awry (vs. 11)? Seems harsh doesn't it? But it is good to remember that Jesus does point out that not everyone is going to accept the Good News and healing and peace. So, offer what you have and if it is rejected, move on. What was the result of the pairs going out into the community (vs. 12)? What did they say? What did they do? Are you aware that this is the role of the church? This is what we are to be about: Calling people to repent of their sinfulness and turn to God, so that we may help with healing the wounded and broken. This is Compassionate Service in the context of Teamwork. This is the design. It is not new. We just need to do it. Where will you start in planting being on a team to serve?

Saturday, Sept 9th – In preparation for tomorrow's worship, please read Job 1:1-5.