

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, April 29th – Luke 7:18-23; Acts 1:8

This week we will study what it means to be “Easter Loud” vs. “Undercover.” Many times we are undercover, because we are not sure what to say. We feel we don’t know the story. Today we see Jesus training up the disciples of John the Baptist to become Easter Loud when the time is right. Practice makes perfect. As we start, read verses 18-20. What is it that John the Baptist is trying to find out? I like John’s style. If you have a question, go to the source himself to find the answer. Notice that before Luke gives us Jesus’ answer, he explains what Jesus has been doing in verse 21. What has he been doing? Verse 22 is Jesus’ answer. What does he tell John’s disciples? Notice that Jesus doesn’t say, “Yes, I am.” Rather, what does Jesus say? They are to be a witness to what they have seen and heard thus far about and from Jesus. They are not required to have college degrees. They are not required to be Biblical scholars, although that helps, since Jesus has asked them to witness to John that the texts in Isaiah are happening for real in and by Jesus. Jesus wants the men to have faith by what they have heard and seen. That is what should convince John the Baptist. What is the added point Jesus makes (vs. 23)? Why would Jesus add this? Many Jews rejected Jesus as the Messiah, even though he was fulfilling the prophecies of the Old Testament. As you read Acts 1:8, we see that Jesus calls all of us to be witnesses. This requires us to be a witness/speaking about what we have seen and heard. Where have you encountered God in your life or seen him in the lives of others? Will you be Easter Loud about it or go Undercover? Which do you think Jesus would want you to do?

Tuesday, April 30th – 2 Timothy 1:5-10

One of the greatest witnesses for Jesus, the apostle Paul, has some instructions for his mentee, Timothy, that will serve us well as we learn to be Easter Loud! As you read verse 5, what does Paul commend Timothy for having? Would Paul be able to commend you for having genuine faith? Who else had this genuine faith? What does this teach you about the importance of sharing with your children? So, what is the first thing that Timothy is to do regarding his faith and why (vs. 6)? What kind of spirit did Timothy (and us) get when hands were laid on us at our baptism or confirmation (vs. 7)? Which type of loving follower of Jesus Christ does that point to? An Easter Loud or an Undercover believer? If you are not sure, read verse 8. It will clear it up for you. So which type of loving follower should you be? Why should Timothy not be ashamed of Paul either? Why is Paul in prison? There is also a warning in verse 8 to Timothy and to us. What is the warning? Why do you think we need to learn how to suffer for sharing the Good News? How do we endure the suffering (vs. 8)? What are we as loving followers called to (vs. 9a)? Why are we called to this (vs. 9b)? How do we know this is the plan (vs. 10a)? What did God accomplish through Jesus that we are to witness about to others (vs. 10b)? If you were to follow Paul’s instructions today, what would be different in your life this week? Who will God put in your path today that needs to hear the plan of God and then the good news that it was accomplished? Who needs to hear that they can have life and immortality through Jesus? Start by praying our Mission Prayer so that God will open your eyes to those who need to hear your witness. In the meantime, practice repeating your witness to yourself so you are ready when the time comes.

Wednesday, May 1st – Acts 10:39-48

Today we witness how the church grew and spread. As you read verses 39-41, what does Peter declare that he and the others were witnesses to? Have you witnessed the risen Christ in your life? What does this look like? After Peter’s witness to what they saw, what did Jesus order them to do (vss. 42-43)? This could have been most offensive to those listening. But what happened (vss. 44-45)? Which persons were present; who were surprised and why (vss. 45-46)? So, the least likely were filled with the Holy Spirit. What did Peter’s witness lead to (vss. 47-48)? If being this “Easter Loud” could lead to all these Gentiles being baptized, what might God do with you coming out of “undercover” to “Easter Loud” as a witness to your family, neighbors, acquaintances? Pray the Saint James Mission prayer today and then keep your eyes and ears open to when you will be used as an Easter Loud witness to someone who needs Good News.

Thursday, May 2nd – 1 Corinthians 15:10-11

Is it true that it is only the preacher’s job to preach? Yes and no. It is the preacher’s job to preach and share the good news with everyone they encounter, but it is not just the preacher’s job to do this. That is because of what Paul reveals in his first letter to the Corinthians. As you read verse 10, why is Paul doing what he is doing? Has not God poured out on you His divine grace? Paul worked (shared the good news) but who made it fruitful (vs. 10b)? As you read verse 11, does it matter if the preaching is done by me or you? What does matter and what is the result? What needs to change in your thoughts and actions regarding sharing and inviting? You are called to be faithful to being Easter Loud and God’s grace will make your faithfulness fruitful, because He is the one responsible for saving people. Pray the Saint James Mission prayer again and start living Easter Loud to all who will listen.

Friday, May 3rd – 2 Corinthians 4:5-7

We close this week with a final set of helpful instructions on how to be Easter Loud and not just Undercover. Paul is writing to the Corinthians about his and his friends’ witness to the Corinthians. Who are they not preaching about (vs. 5)? Who are they preaching about? And what role are they filling? Why are they preaching Christ Jesus and being Christ’s servants to the Corinthian church (vs. 6)? What do you think it means to have the light shine in our hearts (vs. 6)? Whose light is it? How do we know we have the light and are not deceived (vs. 6b)? How does Paul explain how this light shines out from our hearts into the darkness (vs. 7a)? What does this tell the world who sees (and hears) our light (vs. 8b)? Remember, this passage begins with preaching which reveals the light of Christ in our lives and the power of God in our words. There is nothing undercover here. This is all about being Easter Loud! Easter Loud or Undercover is a choice. Will you hide your light (undercover) or let your light shine through your words and actions (Easter Loud)? Don’t forget to pray the Saint James Mission Prayer and go be Easter Loud!

Saturday, May 4th – Prepare for tomorrow by reading Deuteronomy 8:1-6.