



Growth GUIDE

Spring 2024



Growth GUIDE

*I am the vine; you are the branches. If you
remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit;
apart from me you can do nothing.*

– John 15:5

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Introduction

My son Joshua is getting married in January, and it's been fun to watch him and his fiancée prepare for the wedding. There are so many decisions to be made! They've had to think through the details of the ceremony, the venue, the flowers, the menu, the dress, and much, much more. But one of the most important pieces of the process is preparing and sending the invitation.

The invitation announces the joyful event and lets people know that they are meant to be included in the festivities. It tells the guests when the wedding is, where it is, and how to get there. And if they follow the instructions on the invitation, they'll experience the beauty and the joy of the wedding.

In much the same way, God has prepared an amazing experience for us – life in his kingdom. It is a life of greater joy, meaning, and fulfillment than anything else the world has to offer. And he is inviting us to be a part of it. But just as a guest can only experience the joy of the wedding if they read and respond to the wedding invitation, we can only experience the joy of life in his kingdom if we respond to his gracious invitation!

We do this first by making an initial decision to leave our old lives behind and follow Jesus into the new life he has for us. And if you haven't made that decision, I'd love to encourage you to make it today! But after we make that initial decision, we continue to affirm that decision by choosing to "respond to God's invitation." And one of the key ways we do that is by regularly spending time with him through Scripture and prayer.

That's the reason we've put this guidebook together: we want to encourage and resource you to deepen your relationship with Jesus by spending time with him in Scripture and prayer. And as you "remain in Jesus as he remains in you," (John 15:5) we look forward to celebrating the fruit that results through the power of the Holy Spirit!

How to Use This Guide

Each daily entry in this guide contains an opening Call to Worship, a Psalm of the day, a Scripture passage to read and meditate on, a couple of questions to think about, and an opportunity to talk with God (pray) about what you've read and heard. Here are a few thoughts to keep in mind:

- We've designed these devotions to be flexible. If a daily devotion is a new experience for you, you might want to start by setting aside ten minutes a day to go through the material and pray. Don't worry too much about the length of time – it's better to spend a few minutes each day than to spend an hour every once in a while. And as time goes by and you get more comfortable, you may even find yourself naturally wanting to spend a little longer on each devotion.
- If you miss a day, don't stress over it! Just pick up where you left off the next day. We've only given you five devotions per week, so you have a couple of extra “catch-up” days built into each week. And remember, this is meant to be a blessing, not a burden!
- Many people find that picking a specific time and place to have their devotion each day helps them stay consistent. Remember – there's no “perfect” way to do this. Just find the time and place that works best for you where you can spend a few quiet, uninterrupted moments by yourself.
- Each day, you might want to follow a basic order like this:
 - o Take a moment to sit quietly, recognizing that God is with you and loves you completely.
 - o Begin by saying a short prayer. Share anything you need or want to say to God, welcome his Spirit into this moment, and ask him to speak to you through his Word.
 - o Prayerfully read the Psalm of the day, then go through the main Scripture reading. Make sure to take your time and read slowly. You might want to read the passage several times. As you read, ask yourself: What do I notice about the passage? How might God be speaking to me today through these words?

- o Spend a few moments reflecting on and answering the questions listed. Many people find it helpful to jot down a few of their thoughts about the questions in the space provided. Taking a few notes has a way of helping us clarify what we're thinking, and it will also help you remember your experience better so you can share it with others.
- o Close by spending a few moments in prayer, submitting yourself to God and asking him to make you more like Jesus. If you like, you can write out some or all of your prayer in the space provided.

A Few Details

The Scripture readings included in this guide have been intentionally selected to complement the topics we'll be covering in the Sunday sermons and our Grow Group sessions. Each week, we focus on a particular theme that we'll explore more fully in the worship service that weekend. By reflecting on the theme throughout the week, you'll put yourself in a great position to hear from the Holy Spirit in worship on Sunday.

As you look through the readings, you'll notice that some days we give you a longer passage to read, but then we specify a few verses to focus on. On these days, we're including the longer reading to give you context, but encouraging you to focus specifically on the few verses that the questions will be based on. We suggest that you read the entire passage once, then read the verses to focus on several times. Note that you may read the longer passage several different days, while the verses to focus on will change each day. This gives you extended time to soak in a longer passage, concentrating on a bit at a time each day.

A Final Word

I'd love to invite you to keep one thing in mind as you go through this book. You aren't doing this to earn brownie points with God or to impress your friends! :) God already loves you fully and completely. Spending time with him in Scripture and prayer doesn't make him love you any more, and missing a day won't make him love you any less. That isn't the point!

The point is that *because* God loves you, he wants to spend time with you. And because a dynamic, transformative relationship with Jesus is the best possible thing for us, investing in that relationship is an opportunity, not an obligation.

So please, don't view this resource as a guilt trip, a duty, or a way to "be a good person." View it instead as an invitation to experience the beauty, joy, and transforming power of spending time with our loving and gracious King.

May God bless you as you "abide in the vine"!



John Hewlett
Executive Pastor

WEEK 1



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
JANUARY 1

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

ISAIAH 55:6

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 85



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 5:27-32

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're reflecting on what it means to "passionately follow Jesus." What did following Jesus involve for Levi?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank Jesus that he has invited you to follow him!

NOTES

BENEDICTION: GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU FROM GOD OUR FATHER AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3

Growth **GUIDE**

TUESDAY
JANUARY 2

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

ISAIAH 55:6

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 86



SCRIPTURE READING:
JOHN 8:12

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What kind of impact does Jesus say following him will have in this passage? How have you experienced this personally?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank Jesus for the light he has shined into your life.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU FROM GOD OUR FATHER AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 3

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

ISAIAH 55:6

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 87



SCRIPTURE READING:
JOHN 15:1-5

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What does this passage teach about the kind of relationship Jesus invites us to have with him?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that Jesus will help you "abide in the vine" this year.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU FROM GOD OUR FATHER AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3

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THURSDAY
JANUARY 4

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

ISAIAH 55:6

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 88



SCRIPTURE READING:
ROMANS 12:11-12

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How would you describe your "spiritual fervor" right now?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would increase your passion for following Jesus.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU FROM GOD OUR FATHER AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
JANUARY 5

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

ISAIAH 55:6

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalms 89:1-29



SCRIPTURE READING:
JOHN 10:1-11

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why do the sheep in Jesus' illustration follow the shepherd?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the Spirit would teach you to know Jesus' voice more and more fully.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: GRACE AND PEACE TO YOU FROM GOD OUR FATHER AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3

WEEK 2



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
JANUARY 8

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.

PSALM 66:16

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 89:30-52



SCRIPTURE READING:
ACTS 2:42-47

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're focusing on the corporate nature of our faith. What does this picture of the early church reveal about life with God?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank God that we don't have to follow Jesus alone.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT.
PHILEMON 1:25

Growth **GUIDE**

TUESDAY
JANUARY 9

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you
what he has done for me.*

PSALM 66:16

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 90



SCRIPTURE READING:
HEBREWS 10:23-25

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why do you think the author of Hebrews commands us to encourage each other?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask the Spirit to bring to mind someone you can encourage in their faith this week.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT.
PHILEMON 1:25

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 10

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.

PSALM 66:16

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 91



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 4:1-5

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What kind of "effort" do you think is required to "keep the unity of the Spirit"?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would use you to promote unity within our congregation.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT.
PHILEMON 1:25

THURSDAY
JANUARY 11

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you
what he has done for me.*

PSALM 66:16

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 92



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 JOHN 4:7-12

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why is our love for one another connected to God's love for us?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask God to fill you so fully with his love that you naturally love those around you.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT.

PHILEMON 1:25

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
JANUARY 12

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.

PSALM 66:16

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 93



SCRIPTURE READING:

COLOSSIANS 3:15-17

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- As you reflect on this passage, how would you love to see this happen at VRBC?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Use the passage as a guide to pray for VRBC.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT.

PHILEMON 1:25

WEEK 3



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MONDAY
JANUARY 15

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

PSALM 119:18

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 94



SCRIPTURE READING:

PSALM 14:2-3

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're reflecting on the prevalence of sin and the beauty of God's forgiveness. How have you seen today's passage be true in your own life?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Confess the ways you have turned away from God over the last week.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY OVERFLOW WITH HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT **ROMANS 15:13**

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TUESDAY
JANUARY 16

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

PSALM 119:18

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 95



SCRIPTURE READING:

ISAIAH 53:4-6

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How does Isaiah define "iniquity" in this passage? What does this look like in real life?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank Jesus for his willingness to be pierced for your transgressions.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY OVERFLOW WITH HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT **ROMANS 15:13**

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 17

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

PSALM 119:18

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 96



SCRIPTURE READING:
ROMANS 3:21-26

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- According to this passage, what is the basis for God's forgiveness of us?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank God for his grace in presenting Christ as a sacrifice of atonement for you.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY OVERFLOW WITH HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT **ROMANS 15:13**

THURSDAY
JANUARY 18

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

PSALM 119:18

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 97



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 7:36-50

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What does Jesus say will be the natural response of someone who is in touch with the fact that they have been forgiven?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask the Spirit to deepen your understanding of the gift of forgiveness God has given you through Jesus.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY OVERFLOW WITH HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT **ROMANS 15:13**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

PSALM 119:18

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 98



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 JOHN 1:8-2:2

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why do you think John adds "and purify us from all unrighteousness" after the part about forgiving our sins?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would not only forgive your sins, but cleanse you from them and set you on a new path.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY OVERFLOW WITH HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT **ROMANS 15:13**

WEEK 4



MONDAY
JANUARY 22

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

PSALM 126:3

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 99



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 PETER 4:12-19

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Each day this week, we're reflecting on how God is faithful in our suffering. Which of the ways Peter encourages us to respond to suffering in this passage is the Spirit highlighting for you today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Share with God a specific way that you or someone you care about are suffering right now. With Peter's words in mind, hold up this suffering to the Lord in faith.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE LORD BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT. GRACE BE WITH YOU ALL. **2 TIMOTHY 4:22**

TUESDAY
JANUARY 23

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

PSALM 126:3

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 100



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 PETER 5:8-11

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What is the promise that Peter makes for those who are suffering? In what area do you need to cling to this promise today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray for believers around the world who are suffering today.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE LORD BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT. GRACE BE WITH YOU ALL. **2 TIMOTHY 4:22**

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 24

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

PSALM 126:3

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 101



SCRIPTURE READING:

JAMES 1:2-4

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What spiritual result does James say comes through trials? What might it mean for you to "let perseverance finish its work" in you?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray for perseverance for yourself and those you know who are walking through trials. (You might also text them to let them know you're praying for them.)

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE LORD BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT. GRACE BE WITH YOU ALL. **2 TIMOTHY 4:22**

THURSDAY
JANUARY 25

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

PSALM 126:3

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 102



SCRIPTURE READING:

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7-18

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Where does Paul say the power to persevere through suffering comes from? What kind of attitude puts us in position to experience this power?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask God to encourage you by reminding you of the good things he is doing in your life and in the world.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE LORD BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT. GRACE BE WITH YOU ALL. **2 TIMOTHY 4:22**

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FRIDAY
JANUARY 26

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

PSALM 126:3

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 103



SCRIPTURE READING:

LAMENTATIONS 3:19-26

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How can the writer of this passage be downcast and filled with hope at the same time? What practices does he take part in that help him live in this tension?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Bring your pain to God today and ask him to help you "wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord."

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE LORD BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT. GRACE BE WITH YOU ALL. **2 TIMOTHY 4:22**

WEEK 5



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
JANUARY 29

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.

ISAIAH 6:3

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 104



SCRIPTURE READING:
ROMANS 12:1-2

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're celebrating the fact that God is faithful to transform us by his grace. How does Paul connect God's mercy and spiritual transformation in this passage?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the Spirit would renew your mind, leading to a transformed life. Thank God that his will is good and pleasing!

NOTES

BENEDICTION: I HAVE LOVED YOU WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE; I HAVE DRAWN YOU WITH UNFAILING KINDNESS. **JEREMIAH 31:3**

TUESDAY
JANUARY 30

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.

ISAIAH 6:3

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 105



SCRIPTURE READING:

EPHESIANS 4:17-24

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What might Paul mean by calling the desires of the old self "deceitful"?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask him to show you how futile life without Jesus is and how deceitful our sinful desires can be, then pray for strength to "put on the new self."

NOTES

BENEDICTION: I HAVE LOVED YOU WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE; I HAVE DRAWN YOU WITH UNFAILING KINDNESS. **JEREMIAH 31:3**

WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 31

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.

ISAIAH 6:3

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 106



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 TIMOTHY 4:7-10

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why might Paul use the image of physical training to describe our part in the process of spiritual formation? What motivation does he give in verse 8 for this training?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you a clearer picture of the value of godliness and to lead you to the training that will put you in position to receive it.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: I HAVE LOVED YOU WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE; I HAVE DRAWN YOU WITH UNFAILING KINDNESS. **JEREMIAH 31:3**

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 1

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.

ISAIAH 6:3

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 107



SCRIPTURE READING:

2 PETER 1:1-9

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What is the amazing promise that Peter makes in verses 3-4 about how we can live? How does he encourage us to respond to this in the rest of the passage?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank Jesus that through him, you can "participate in the divine nature" and live a "godly life." Pray that the Spirit would bring God's "great and precious promises" to mind today.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: I HAVE LOVED YOU WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE; I HAVE DRAWN YOU WITH UNFAILING KINDNESS. **JEREMIAH 31:3**

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FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 2

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.

ISAIAH 6:3

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 108



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 THESSALONIANS 5:23-24

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Where does Paul say the power for this whole-life (spirit, soul, body) transformation comes from? In what area do you most need God to sanctify you today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Think through the various parts of your life — thoughts, priorities, words, actions, relationships — and ask the Spirit to “sanctify you through and through.”

NOTES

BENEDICTION: I HAVE LOVED YOU WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE; I HAVE DRAWN YOU WITH UNFAILING KINDNESS. **JEREMIAH 31:3**

WEEK 6



MONDAY
FEBRUARY 5

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

PSALM 145:18

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 109



SCRIPTURE READING:

PHILIPPIANS 3:17-21

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're reflecting on the fact that God is faithful to raise the dead. In today's passage, what does Paul promise that Jesus will do to our bodies?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. If you share Paul's anxiousness for Jesus to return, tell God about it! If not, explore that with God through prayer.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY YOUR UNFAILING LOVE BE WITH US, LORD, EVEN AS WE PUT OUR HOPE IN YOU. **PSALM 33:22**

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 6

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

PSALM 145:18

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 110



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Who are some of the people you are most excited to be reunited with when Jesus returns?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank God that one day soon you will be together again with your friends and family members who have trusted Jesus.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY YOUR UNFAILING LOVE BE WITH US, LORD, EVEN AS WE PUT OUR HOPE IN YOU. PSALM 33:22

WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 7

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

PSALM 145:18

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalms 111



SCRIPTURE READING:

2 CORINTHIANS 5:1-10

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- In what ways do you feel the "groaning" Paul talks about in verse 4? If the Spirit is "a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come," what does that say about our eternal destiny?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that this vision of our future will motivate you to please God with your life.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY YOUR UNFAILING LOVE BE WITH US, LORD, EVEN AS WE PUT OUR HOPE IN YOU. **PSALM 33:22**

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 8

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

PSALM 145:18

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 112



SCRIPTURE READING:
JOHN 11:17-27

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How does Jesus reframe Martha's understanding of the resurrection in verse 25? What might he mean by the phrase "believes in me"?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank Jesus that he isn't just the pathway to resurrection and eternal life, he IS the resurrection and the life. Pray that he would help you experience this resurrection life today.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY YOUR UNFAILING LOVE BE WITH US, LORD, EVEN AS WE PUT OUR HOPE IN YOU. PSALM 33:22

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 9

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

PSALM 145:18

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 113



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-58

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- After the beautiful promises in this passage about the new bodies we will receive when Jesus returns, how does Paul encourage us to respond in verse 58? How can you do this today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank God for the wonderful assurance that he will give you a new, imperishable body, and ask him to let that hope inspire you to serve him more fully.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY YOUR UNFAILING LOVE BE WITH US, LORD, EVEN AS WE PUT OUR HOPE IN YOU. **PSALM 33:22**

WEEK 7



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
FEBRUARY 12

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.

PSALM 136:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 114



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 1:26-38

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Each day this week we're looking at how Jesus brings something new to the world. In today's passage, what are the implications of the angel's message that Jesus will be the new King?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Praise Jesus that he is the King who will reign forever. Use Mary's prayer in verse 38 as a guide for your own prayer today.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU; THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE ON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU; THE LORD TURN HIS FACE TOWARD YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE. **NUMBERS 6:24-26**

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 13

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.

PSALM 136:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 115



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 3:7-20

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- John the Baptist says that Jesus is going to bring a new kind of baptism. What do you think he means when he says Jesus will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that Jesus would help you live the radically new, Spirit-filled life that God has in mind for you.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU; THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE ON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU; THE LORD TURN HIS FACE TOWARD YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE. **NUMBERS 6:24-26**

WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 14

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.

PSALM 136:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 116



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 4:14-21

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Which part of Jesus' description of the new day he is bringing do you find most compelling today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the poor, the prisoners, the blind, and the oppressed in the world (both physically and spiritually) would respond to the good news that Jesus is bringing a new kind of life.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU; THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE ON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU; THE LORD TURN HIS FACE TOWARD YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE. **NUMBERS 6:24-26**

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 15

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.

PSALM 136:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 117



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 5:1-11

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What is the new mission that Jesus gives Simon in this passage? How has Jesus changed your goals in life?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the Spirit would give you strength and courage to live out the new mission that Jesus has given you.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU; THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE ON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU; THE LORD TURN HIS FACE TOWARD YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE. **NUMBERS 6:24-26**

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 16

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.

PSALM 136:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 118



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 5:33-39

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What point is Jesus trying to make with the illustration about the wineskins? In what ways are you tempted to "stick with the old wine" (v39) instead of embracing the new life Jesus brings?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank Jesus that he is making everything new, and ask him to help you embrace all the new things that he is bringing.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU; THE LORD MAKE HIS FACE SHINE ON YOU AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU; THE LORD TURN HIS FACE TOWARD YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE. **NUMBERS 6:24-26**

WEEK 8



MONDAY
FEBRUARY 19

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

PSALM 96:9

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 119:1-16



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 6:17-26

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're focusing on the kind of heart that experiences the true power of the gospel. What do Jesus' words in this passage teach us about the attitude required to receive him?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask Jesus to teach you his way of viewing the world and his definition of blessing.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: WAIT FOR THE LORD; BE STRONG AND TAKE HEART AND WAIT FOR THE LORD. PSALM 27:14

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

PSALM 96:9

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 119:17-32



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 6:46-49

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What is the same about the two houses Jesus describes? What is different?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask the Spirit to reveal any areas of your life where you need to more fully put Jesus' words into practice.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: WAIT FOR THE LORD; BE STRONG AND TAKE HEART AND WAIT FOR THE LORD. PSALM 27:14

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

PSALM 96:9

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 119:33-48



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 7:1-10

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What did the centurion's words reveal about how he viewed Jesus? How would having this kind of faith impact your life?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that as you face the challenges in your own life, you would share the simple, trusting faith of the centurion.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: WAIT FOR THE LORD; BE STRONG AND TAKE HEART AND WAIT FOR THE LORD. PSALM 27:14

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 22

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

PSALM 96:9

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 119:49-64



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 7:18-35

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Reflect for a moment on the tragic words in verse 30: "the Pharisees . . . rejected God's purpose for themselves." What did they miss out on?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that he would give you the wisdom to embrace his purpose for you rather than reject it. Pray also that you'll never miss out on what God is doing just because it doesn't look the way you expect.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: WAIT FOR THE LORD; BE STRONG AND TAKE HEART AND WAIT FOR THE LORD. PSALM 27:14

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

PSALM 96:9

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 119:65-80



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 8:1-15

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What made the difference in how the seeds in the parable grew? What is the condition of your soil today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would make your heart like the good soil — soft, ready to receive the Word, free of rocks, thorns, and other hindrances to growth.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: WAIT FOR THE LORD; BE STRONG AND TAKE HEART AND WAIT FOR THE LORD. PSALM 27:14

WEEK 9



MONDAY
FEBRUARY 26

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his.

DANIEL 2:20

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 119:81-96



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 9:37-43A

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're looking at stories that reveal Jesus' commitment to the lost and hurting. What does this miracle say about Jesus' attitude toward our pain?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray for healing for those you care about who struggle with physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual sicknesses.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: WORTHY IS THE LAMB, WHO WAS SLAIN, TO RECEIVE POWER AND WEALTH AND WISDOM AND STRENGTH AND HONOR AND GLORY AND PRAISE!

REVELATION 5:12

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 27

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his.

DANIEL 2:20

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 119:97-112



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 10:25-37

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Who in your life (perhaps from a different background than you) needs you to serve them in this kind of costly and intimate way?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would help you notice the hurting people around you and give you compassion that leads to action.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: WORTHY IS THE LAMB, WHO WAS SLAIN, TO RECEIVE POWER AND WEALTH AND WISDOM AND STRENGTH AND HONOR AND GLORY AND PRAISE!

REVELATION 5:12

WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 28

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his.

DANIEL 2:20

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalms 119:113-128



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 14:15-24

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Who does the host have his servant invite or bring to the feast? Who ends up coming? What does this teach us about the kingdom?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank God that he invited you to the feast of life in his kingdom and ask him to use you to invite others to join in.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: WORTHY IS THE LAMB, WHO WAS SLAIN, TO RECEIVE POWER AND WEALTH AND WISDOM AND STRENGTH AND HONOR AND GLORY AND PRAISE!

REVELATION 5:12

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 29

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his.

DANIEL 2:20

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 119:129-144



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 15:1-10

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How does Jesus' view of people differ from the view held by the Pharisees and teachers of the law? Who are you tempted to exclude that Jesus wants to include?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank God that he sought you out when you were lost.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: WORTHY IS THE LAMB, WHO WAS SLAIN, TO RECEIVE POWER AND WEALTH AND WISDOM AND STRENGTH AND HONOR AND GLORY AND PRAISE!

REVELATION 5:12

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his.

DANIEL 2:20

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalms 119:145-160



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 15:11-32

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What difference is there between the speech the son rehearses (v18-19) and the speech he actually gives (v21)? Why does the father cut him off before he finishes?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would help you see yourself as fully loved and fully accepted — not because you earned it, but because you are his child.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: WORTHY IS THE LAMB, WHO WAS SLAIN, TO RECEIVE POWER AND WEALTH AND WISDOM AND STRENGTH AND HONOR AND GLORY AND PRAISE!

REVELATION 5:12

WEEK 10



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
MARCH 4

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.

NAHUM 1:7

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalms 119:161-176



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 9:28-36

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're exploring what is most valuable in God's Kingdom. What can we learn about Luke's view of Jesus from today's passage?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the Spirit will help you see Jesus' glory more clearly today.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MERCY, PEACE AND LOVE BE YOURS IN ABUNDANCE. JUDE 1:2

TUESDAY
MARCH 5

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.

NAHUM 1:7

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 120



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 10:38-42

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What does this story teach us about Jesus' values? How can you imitate Mary today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Spend a few moments "sitting at the Lord's feet, listening to what he says" to you.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MERCY, PEACE AND LOVE BE YOURS IN ABUNDANCE. JUDE 1:2

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 6

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.

NAHUM 1:7

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 121



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 16:19-31

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What might Jesus be saying about material wealth through this story?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would give you an eternal perspective.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MERCY, PEACE AND LOVE BE YOURS IN ABUNDANCE. JUDE 1:2

THURSDAY
MARCH 7

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.

NAHUM 1:7

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 122



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 12:22-34

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How does this passage stretch the way you think about material possessions?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank God that he is taking care of all of your material needs and pray for grace to trust him more.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MERCY, PEACE AND LOVE BE YOURS IN ABUNDANCE. JUDE 1:2

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
MARCH 8

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.

NAHUM 1:7

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 123



SCRIPTURE READING:
LUKE 12:13-21

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why do you think Jesus warns his listeners to be on their guard against greed?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that Jesus will transform your view of what is truly valuable in life.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MERCY, PEACE AND LOVE BE YOURS IN ABUNDANCE. JUDE 1:2

WEEK 11



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
MARCH 11

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

PSALM 100:1-2

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 124



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 18:15-17

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're looking at the unexpected kinds of people that Jesus blesses. What does today's passage reveal about the kingdom of God, and how should you respond?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask Jesus to give you a childlike faith in him.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: GRACE TO ALL WHO LOVE OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST WITH AN UNDYING LOVE **EPHESIANS 6:24**

TUESDAY
MARCH 12

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

PSALM 100:1-2

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 125



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 18:35-43

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- In what area of your life do you need to show the boldness and persistence of this blind man as you ask Jesus for help?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Bring your needs and the needs of those you love to the Lord and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me."

NOTES

BENEDICTION: GRACE TO ALL WHO LOVE OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST WITH AN UNDYING LOVE **EPHESIANS 6:24**

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 13

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

PSALM 100:1-2

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 126



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 17:11-19

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What did the tenth leper see that the other nine missed? What do you need to thank Jesus for today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank Jesus for the many ways he has brought healing to your life.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: GRACE TO ALL WHO LOVE OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST WITH AN UNDYING LOVE **EPHESIANS 6:24**

THURSDAY
MARCH 14

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

PSALM 100:1-2

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 127



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 19:1-10

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How do you think Zacchaeus must have felt when Jesus called his name?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Imagine yourself in this passage — you're watching Jesus go by and he looks up at you, calls you by name, and invites himself to your house. Thank him for accepting you as his friend.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: GRACE TO ALL WHO LOVE OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST WITH AN UNDYING LOVE **EPHESIANS 6:24**

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
MARCH 15

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

PSALM 100:1-2

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 128



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 18:9-14

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What do you think is the main point of this parable?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Use the tax collector's prayer as a model for your own prayer today.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: GRACE TO ALL WHO LOVE OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST WITH AN UNDYING LOVE **EPHESIANS 6:24**

WEEK 12



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
MARCH 18

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world,
and all who live in it.*

PSALM 24:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 129



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 9:21-26

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week we're reflecting on the cost of following Jesus. How do you feel when you read Jesus' words in verse 23?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the Father would show you why following Jesus is worth losing everything.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE TENDER MERCY OF OUR GOD, BY WHICH THE RISING SUN WILL COME TO US FROM HEAVEN, SHINE ON THOSE LIVING IN DARKNESS AND GUIDE OUR FEET INTO THE PATH OF PEACE. **LUKE 1:78-79**

TUESDAY
MARCH 19

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world,
and all who live in it.*

PSALM 24:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 130



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 9:57-62

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- These sayings sound almost harsh at first — what do you think Jesus is trying to say in this passage?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask God for the grace to let go of anything and everything that would keep you from following Jesus.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE TENDER MERCY OF OUR GOD, BY WHICH THE RISING SUN WILL COME TO US FROM HEAVEN, SHINE ON THOSE LIVING IN DARKNESS AND GUIDE OUR FEET INTO THE PATH OF PEACE. **LUKE 1:78-79**

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 20

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world,
and all who live in it.*

PSALM 24:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 131



SCRIPTURE READING:
LUKE 17:7-10

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How does this attitude that Jesus commends here compare with the sense of entitlement prevalent in our culture today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask God to release you from any sense of entitlement you may feel and to fill you with a holy sense of duty to serve him.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE TENDER MERCY OF OUR GOD, BY WHICH THE RISING SUN WILL COME TO US FROM HEAVEN, SHINE ON THOSE LIVING IN DARKNESS AND GUIDE OUR FEET INTO THE PATH OF PEACE. **LUKE 1:78-79**

THURSDAY
MARCH 21

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world,
and all who live in it.*

PSALM 24:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 132



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 18:18-30

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why do you think Jesus invites this man to sell his possessions? What might Jesus be inviting you to leave behind today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask the Spirit to reveal to you anything that you need to give up to follow him more fully.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE TENDER MERCY OF OUR GOD, BY WHICH THE RISING SUN WILL COME TO US FROM HEAVEN, SHINE ON THOSE LIVING IN DARKNESS AND GUIDE OUR FEET INTO THE PATH OF PEACE. **LUKE 1:78-79**

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
MARCH 22

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world,
and all who live in it.*

PSALM 24:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 133



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 14:25-35

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why do you think Jesus encourages his listeners to "count the cost" before choosing to follow him?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask Jesus to give you a clearer picture of what it costs to follow him AND why it's worth it.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE TENDER MERCY OF OUR GOD, BY WHICH THE RISING SUN WILL COME TO US FROM HEAVEN, SHINE ON THOSE LIVING IN DARKNESS AND GUIDE OUR FEET INTO THE PATH OF PEACE. **LUKE 1:78-79**

WEEK 13



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
MARCH 25

CALL TO WORSHIP:

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.

PSALM 130:5

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 134



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 19:28-44

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're following Jesus through the events of Holy Week. In today's passage, reflect on the contrast between the people's celebration and Jesus' tears.
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Join Jesus in mourning for those who have not yet recognized what would bring them peace (Christ himself), and join the people in celebrating the good news that Jesus is King.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO IMMEASURABLY MORE THAN ALL WE ASK OR IMAGINE, ACCORDING TO HIS POWER THAT IS AT WORK WITHIN US, TO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH AND IN CHRIST JESUS THROUGHOUT ALL GENERATIONS, FOR EVER AND EVER! AMEN. **EPHESIANS 3:20-21**

Growth **GUIDE**

TUESDAY
MARCH 26

CALL TO WORSHIP:

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.

PSALM 130:5

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 135



SCRIPTURE READING:
LUKE 22:1-23

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Read the passage again. Imagine yourself seated around the table with Jesus. What thoughts and feelings are you experiencing?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Sit quietly in God's presence, remembering Jesus' sacrifice for us.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO IMMEASURABLY MORE THAN ALL WE ASK OR IMAGINE, ACCORDING TO HIS POWER THAT IS AT WORK WITHIN US, TO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH AND IN CHRIST JESUS THROUGHOUT ALL GENERATIONS, FOR EVER AND EVER! AMEN. **EPHESIANS 3:20-21**

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 27

CALL TO WORSHIP:

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.

PSALM 130:5

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 136



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 22:39-46

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Read the passage again. Imagine yourself in the garden with Jesus. What thoughts and feelings are you experiencing?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Use Jesus' prayer as a model for your own prayer today.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO IMMEASURABLY MORE THAN ALL WE ASK OR IMAGINE, ACCORDING TO HIS POWER THAT IS AT WORK WITHIN US, TO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH AND IN CHRIST JESUS THROUGHOUT ALL GENERATIONS, FOR EVER AND EVER! AMEN. **EPHESIANS 3:20-21**

THURSDAY
MARCH 28

CALL TO WORSHIP:

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.

PSALM 130:5

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 137



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 22:47-23:56

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Imagine yourself following Jesus through each step of this dark journey. What thoughts and feelings are you experiencing?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. What might God be saying to you? What do you need to say to him?

NOTES

BENEDICTION: NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO IMMEASURABLY MORE THAN ALL WE ASK OR IMAGINE, ACCORDING TO HIS POWER THAT IS AT WORK WITHIN US, TO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH AND IN CHRIST JESUS THROUGHOUT ALL GENERATIONS, FOR EVER AND EVER! AMEN. **EPHESIANS 3:20-21**

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
MARCH 29

CALL TO WORSHIP:

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.

PSALM 130:5

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 138



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 24:1-12

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Imagine yourself walking with the women to Jesus' tomb on Easter Sunday morning and hearing the message of the angels. What thoughts and feelings are you experiencing?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Praise God for the Resurrection and the hope it brings!

NOTES

BENEDICTION: NOW TO HIM WHO IS ABLE TO DO IMMEASURABLY MORE THAN ALL WE ASK OR IMAGINE, ACCORDING TO HIS POWER THAT IS AT WORK WITHIN US, TO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH AND IN CHRIST JESUS THROUGHOUT ALL GENERATIONS, FOR EVER AND EVER! AMEN. **EPHESIANS 3:20-21**

WEEK 14



MONDAY
APRIL 1

CALL TO WORSHIP:

I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted.

EXODUS 15:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 139



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 1:1-23

VERSES TO FOCUS ON:
3-8a, 18-23

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're celebrating the riches found in Christ. Which of the many blessings Paul lists in this passage are you most grateful for today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Read the passage again, using it as a prompt to thank God for the spiritual blessings he has given us in Christ.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR YOU WERE ONCE IN DARKNESS, BUT NOW YOU ARE LIGHT IN THE LORD. LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT. **EPHESIANS 5:8**

TUESDAY
APRIL 2

CALL TO WORSHIP:

I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted.

EXODUS 15:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 140



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 2:1-22

VERSES TO FOCUS ON:
1-10

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What do the "incomparable riches of God's grace" mean to you today? How has God's grace enriched your life?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Praise God for the incomparable riches of his grace!

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR YOU WERE ONCE IN DARKNESS, BUT NOW YOU ARE LIGHT IN THE LORD. LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT. **EPHESIANS 5:8**

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 3

CALL TO WORSHIP:

I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted.

EXODUS 15:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 141



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 3:1-21

VERSES TO FOCUS ON:
7-9

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What are some of the things you think Paul is referring to when he uses the phrase, "the boundless riches of Christ"?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the Holy Spirit would help you see the boundless riches of Christ more clearly today.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR YOU WERE ONCE IN DARKNESS, BUT NOW YOU ARE LIGHT IN THE LORD. LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT. **EPHESIANS 5:8**

THURSDAY
APRIL 4

CALL TO WORSHIP:

I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted.

EXODUS 15:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 142



SCRIPTURE READING:

COLOSSIANS 1:24-29

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What is the glorious mystery Paul says God has made known among the Gentiles? Why is this so valuable?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank God that by his grace, Christ is alive in you right now..

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR YOU WERE ONCE IN DARKNESS, BUT NOW YOU ARE LIGHT IN THE LORD. LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT. **EPHESIANS 5:8**

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
APRIL 5

CALL TO WORSHIP:

I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted.

EXODUS 15:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 143



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 CORINTHIANS 1:1-9

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- As you have reflected this week on the riches found in Christ, what has been most meaningful to you?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank God once again for the riches he has given us in Christ.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR YOU WERE ONCE IN DARKNESS, BUT NOW YOU ARE LIGHT IN THE LORD. LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT. **EPHESIANS 5:8**

WEEK 15



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
APRIL 8

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.

PSALM 145:13

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 144



SCRIPTURE READING:

PSALM 133:1-3

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're reflecting on the supernatural unity that is found in Christ. When have you experienced the joyful unity David talks about in today's passage?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank him for the times you've experienced the joy of Christian unity.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT.

GALATIANS 6:18

Growth **GUIDE**

TUESDAY
APRIL 9

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.

PSALM 145:13

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 145



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 1:1-23

VERSES TO FOCUS ON:
8b-10

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- In this passage, what does Paul say is God's ultimate plan? How does this give you hope?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would use you to be a part of his plan to bring all things to unity under Christ.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT.
GALATIANS 6:18

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 10

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.

PSALM 145:13

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 146



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 2:1-22

VERSES TO FOCUS ON:
11-22

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What impact does Paul say Jesus' death has on our relationships with others? What implications does that have for how we treat those who are different from us?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask the Spirit to soften your heart toward those who are different from you and to give you a desire to build unity across dividing lines.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT.
GALATIANS 6:18

THURSDAY
APRIL 11

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.

PSALM 145:13

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 147



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 3:1-21

VERSES TO FOCUS ON:
2-6

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why is it good news that Gentiles like us are "heirs together with Israel" and members of the same body?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank God that all of the blessings promised to Israel are ours in Christ.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT.
GALATIANS 6:18

FRIDAY
APRIL 12

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.

PSALM 145:13

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 148



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-17

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What does this passage have to say to our church in this season? What is the Spirit calling you to do in response to this passage?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would bless VRBC with supernatural unity in this season and ask him to help you do your part to bring it about.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOUR SPIRIT.

GALATIANS 6:18

WEEK 16



MONDAY
APRIL 15

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 149



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 1:1-23

VERSES TO FOCUS ON:
15-17

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're celebrating the wisdom found in Jesus. Why does Paul pray that God would give his readers the spirit of wisdom?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Use Paul's prayer as a model to pray for yourself and those you care about. Pray that you would grow in wisdom so that you know God better.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR FROM HIM AND THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM ARE ALL THINGS. TO HIM BE THE GLORY FOREVER! AMEN. **ROMANS 11:36**

TUESDAY
APRIL 16

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 150



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 3:1-21

VERSES TO FOCUS ON:
10-13

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Based on your readings from Ephesians over the last few weeks, how do you think the Church can make the wisdom of God known to the world?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that VRBC would shine Jesus' light into our community and be a living example of God's wisdom through the way we live.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR FROM HIM AND THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM ARE ALL THINGS. TO HIM BE THE GLORY FOREVER! AMEN. **ROMANS 11:36**

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 17

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 1



SCRIPTURE READING:

COLOSSIANS 1:9-14

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What does Paul say is the result of the wisdom and understanding the Spirit gives? In what area of your life do you need this kind of wisdom?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask God to give you wisdom that leads to living a life worthy of the Lord.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR FROM HIM AND THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM ARE ALL THINGS. TO HIM BE THE GLORY FOREVER! AMEN. **ROMANS 11:36**

THURSDAY
APRIL 18

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 2



SCRIPTURE READING:
COLOSSIANS 2:1-5

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- In what areas of your life have you found wisdom through your relationship with Jesus?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank Jesus that all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in him and ask him to help you gain his wisdom as you follow him.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR FROM HIM AND THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM ARE ALL THINGS. TO HIM BE THE GLORY FOREVER! AMEN. **ROMANS 11:36**

FRIDAY
APRIL 19

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 3



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How does the wisdom of God differ from the wisdom of the world?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the Holy Spirit would renew your mind and help you choose the wisdom of God over the wisdom of the world.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR FROM HIM AND THROUGH HIM AND FOR HIM ARE ALL THINGS. TO HIM BE THE GLORY FOREVER! AMEN. **ROMANS 11:36**

WEEK 17



MONDAY
APRIL 22

CALL TO WORSHIP:

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you . . .

PSALM 63:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 4



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 1:1-23

VERSES TO FOCUS ON:
11-14

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're focusing on our opportunity and responsibility to share the good news of Jesus with others. Based on the whole chapter (Ephesians 1), how would you describe the "message of truth" in v13?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank Jesus that he has revealed the beautiful truth of the gospel to you.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR GOD, WHO SAID, 'LET LIGHT SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS;' MADE HIS LIGHT SHINE IN OUR HEARTS TO GIVE US THE LIGHT OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S GLORY DISPLAYED IN THE FACE OF CHRIST. **2 CORINTHIANS 4:6**

TUESDAY
APRIL 23

CALL TO WORSHIP:

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you . . .

PSALM 63:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 5



SCRIPTURE READING:
EPHESIANS 3:1-21

VERSES TO FOCUS ON:
14-21

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How does Paul's prayer for his friends in this passage challenge you in the way you pray for others?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Using this passage as a guide, pray for your friends and neighbors — those who are following Jesus and those who don't yet know him.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR GOD, WHO SAID, 'LET LIGHT SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS;' MADE HIS LIGHT SHINE IN OUR HEARTS TO GIVE US THE LIGHT OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S GLORY DISPLAYED IN THE FACE OF CHRIST. **2 CORINTHIANS 4:6**

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 24

CALL TO WORSHIP:

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you . . .

PSALM 63:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 6



SCRIPTURE READING:

COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Where do you think God may be "opening a door" for you to share the message of the gospel with someone in your life?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the Spirit would help you be watchful, noticing and making the most of the opportunities he gives you to share the good news of Jesus.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR GOD, WHO SAID, 'LET LIGHT SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS;' MADE HIS LIGHT SHINE IN OUR HEARTS TO GIVE US THE LIGHT OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S GLORY DISPLAYED IN THE FACE OF CHRIST. **2 CORINTHIANS 4:6**

THURSDAY
APRIL 25

CALL TO WORSHIP:

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you . . .

PSALM 63:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 7



SCRIPTURE READING:

2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-20

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How do you feel when you read Paul's description of who we are and the message he has committed to us?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Thank Jesus for the privilege of being his ambassador and ask him to give you a greater passion for sharing the message of reconciliation with those around you.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR GOD, WHO SAID, 'LET LIGHT SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS;' MADE HIS LIGHT SHINE IN OUR HEARTS TO GIVE US THE LIGHT OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S GLORY DISPLAYED IN THE FACE OF CHRIST. **2 CORINTHIANS 4:6**

FRIDAY
APRIL 26

CALL TO WORSHIP:

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you . . .

PSALM 63:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 8



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-5

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What can we learn about sharing the message of Christ from Paul's example in this passage?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would help you see that your responsibility in sharing Christ with others isn't to "wow" them with your eloquence or wisdom, but instead to humbly and simply point them to Jesus.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR GOD, WHO SAID, 'LET LIGHT SHINE OUT OF DARKNESS;' MADE HIS LIGHT SHINE IN OUR HEARTS TO GIVE US THE LIGHT OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S GLORY DISPLAYED IN THE FACE OF CHRIST. **2 CORINTHIANS 4:6**

WEEK 18



MONDAY
APRIL 29

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

PSALM 96:2

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 9



SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 23:1-12

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're reflecting on the humility that is required for those in God's Kingdom. What is one lesson about humility you can draw from this passage?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would bless you with a spirit of true humility.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR I AM CONVINCED THAT NEITHER DEATH NOR LIFE, NEITHER ANGELS NOR DEMONS, NEITHER THE PRESENT NOR THE FUTURE, NOR ANY POWERS, NEITHER HEIGHT NOR DEPTH, NOR ANYTHING ELSE IN ALL CREATION, WILL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD. **ROMANS 8:38-39**

TUESDAY
APRIL 30

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

PSALM 96:2

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalms 10



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 PETER 5:1-7

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What does this passage reveal about how God views humility and pride?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would reveal areas of pride in your life and ask the Spirit to help you leave them behind by God's grace.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR I AM CONVINCED THAT NEITHER DEATH NOR LIFE, NEITHER ANGELS NOR DEMONS, NEITHER THE PRESENT NOR THE FUTURE, NOR ANY POWERS, NEITHER HEIGHT NOR DEPTH, NOR ANYTHING ELSE IN ALL CREATION, WILL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD. **ROMANS 8:38-39**

WEDNESDAY
MAY 1

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

PSALM 96:2

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 11



SCRIPTURE READING:
PHLIIPPIANS 2:1-5

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How did Jesus model the kind of humility that he commands us to have?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the Spirit would help you imitate the humble mindset of Jesus in your relationships. (pray about specific relationships!)

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR I AM CONVINCED THAT NEITHER DEATH NOR LIFE, NEITHER ANGELS NOR DEMONS, NEITHER THE PRESENT NOR THE FUTURE, NOR ANY POWERS, NEITHER HEIGHT NOR DEPTH, NOR ANYTHING ELSE IN ALL CREATION, WILL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD. **ROMANS 8:38-39**

THURSDAY
MAY 2

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

PSALM 96:2

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalms 12



SCRIPTURE READING:

MARK 9:30-37

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why do you think Mark put Jesus' prediction of his death in verses 30-32 right before the story about the disciples arguing about who was the greatest?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask God to rescue you from a spirit of competition with others and help you embrace humility and service.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR I AM CONVINCED THAT NEITHER DEATH NOR LIFE, NEITHER ANGELS NOR DEMONS, NEITHER THE PRESENT NOR THE FUTURE, NOR ANY POWERS, NEITHER HEIGHT NOR DEPTH, NOR ANYTHING ELSE IN ALL CREATION, WILL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD. **ROMANS 8:38-39**

FRIDAY
MAY 3

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

PSALM 96:2

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 13



SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 20:20-28

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How does Jesus contrast life in his Kingdom with the way things work in the world?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask God to help you leave behind the self-absorbed, power-hungry spirit of the world and step into the beautiful life of humility.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: FOR I AM CONVINCED THAT NEITHER DEATH NOR LIFE, NEITHER ANGELS NOR DEMONS, NEITHER THE PRESENT NOR THE FUTURE, NOR ANY POWERS, NEITHER HEIGHT NOR DEPTH, NOR ANYTHING ELSE IN ALL CREATION, WILL BE ABLE TO SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF GOD THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD. **ROMANS 8:38-39**

WEEK 19



MONDAY
MAY 6

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always
be on my lips.*

PSALM 34:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 14



SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 6:9-15

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're talking about how in Christ's kingdom, we are meant to forgive one another freely instead of keeping score. Why do you think Jesus connects forgiveness extended with forgiveness received?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would give you a deeper understanding and experience of the forgiveness you have received.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: NOW MAY THE LORD OF PEACE HIMSELF GIVE YOU PEACE AT ALL
TIMES AND IN EVERY WAY. **2 THESSALONIANS 3:16**

TUESDAY
MAY 7

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always
be on my lips.*

PSALM 34:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 15



SCRIPTURE READING:

COLOSSIANS 3:12-14

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why do you think Paul connects love with forgiveness?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask Jesus to give you a deeper unconditional love for those around you.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: NOW MAY THE LORD OF PEACE HIMSELF GIVE YOU PEACE AT ALL
TIMES AND IN EVERY WAY. **2 THESSALONIANS 3:16**

WEDNESDAY
MAY 8

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always
be on my lips.*

PSALM 34:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 16



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-5

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Is there someone in your life with whom you are "keeping a record of wrongs"? What does love require of you in that relationship?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that the Spirit would help you let go of grudges and old wounds.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: NOW MAY THE LORD OF PEACE HIMSELF GIVE YOU PEACE AT ALL
TIMES AND IN EVERY WAY. **2 THESSALONIANS 3:16**

THURSDAY
MAY 9

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always
be on my lips.*

PSALM 34:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 17



SCRIPTURE READING:
1 PETER 2:21-25

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Based on the rest of the passage, what do you think Peter was referring to in verse 21 when he says that Jesus left an example for us?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask God to help you learn to trust him for justice rather than taking it into your own hands.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: NOW MAY THE LORD OF PEACE HIMSELF GIVE YOU PEACE AT ALL
TIMES AND IN EVERY WAY. **2 THESSALONIANS 3:16**

FRIDAY
MAY 10

CALL TO WORSHIP:

*I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always
be on my lips.*

PSALM 34:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 18:1-24



SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 18:21-35

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Why do you think Jesus used such an exaggerated imbalance when comparing our sins with the sins of others in this parable?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask the Spirit to help you see the magnitude of your sin and the beauty of your forgiveness so clearly that you naturally and joyfully forgive others.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: NOW MAY THE LORD OF PEACE HIMSELF GIVE YOU PEACE AT ALL
TIMES AND IN EVERY WAY. **2 THESSALONIANS 3:16**

WEEK 20



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
MAY 13

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

PSALM 103:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 18:25-50



SCRIPTURE READING:

LUKE 6:43-45

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're examining how God prioritizes inward purity over outward performance. In today's passage, how does Jesus say the two are related?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask God to help you see how your external behavior is related to your internal condition.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH YOU ALL. **2 CORINTHIANS 13:14**

TUESDAY
MAY 14

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

PSALM 103:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 19



SCRIPTURE READING:

1 SAMUEL 16:1-13

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- In what ways are you tempted to focus on the outward appearance (of others and yourself) rather than the heart?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would help you prioritize internal character over outward giftedness.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH YOU ALL. **2 CORINTHIANS 13:14**

Growth **GUIDE**

WEDNESDAY
MAY 15

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

PSALM 103:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 20



SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 5:21-30

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- In today's passage, how does Jesus expand his listeners' view of righteousness?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask the Holy Spirit to transform you from the inside out, especially in the areas of anger and lust.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH YOU ALL. **2 CORINTHIANS 13:14**

Growth **GUIDE**

THURSDAY
MAY 16

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

PSALM 103:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 21



SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 15:1-20

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- How can worship be "in vain"?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would draw your heart toward him, and that your external behavior would be a natural outgrowth of your love for him.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH YOU ALL. **2 CORINTHIANS 13:14**

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
MAY 17

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

PSALM 103:1

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 22



SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 23:25-28

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What might Jesus mean by saying, "clean the inside of the cup"? In what area do you need to partner with the Holy Spirit to do that today?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask the Spirit to purify your heart by his grace.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: MAY THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THE LOVE OF GOD, AND THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BE WITH YOU ALL. **2 CORINTHIANS 13:14**

WEEK 21



Growth **GUIDE**

MONDAY
MAY 20

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

PSALM 148:1B

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 23



SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 5:38-42

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- This week, we're exploring Jesus' call to serve our brother instead of protecting ourselves. How does Jesus' teaching in this passage compare with the values of our culture?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would help you embrace Jesus' counter-cultural way of responding to others.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS BE WITH GOD'S PEOPLE. **REVELATION 22:21**

TUESDAY
MAY 21

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

PSALM 148:1B

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 24



SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 5:43-48

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- Who comes to mind when you read "your enemies and those who persecute you"? Why might Jesus command us to pray for these people?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that he would bless specific people who have been persecuting you or frustrating you recently.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS BE WITH GOD'S PEOPLE. **REVELATION 22:21**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

PSALM 148:1B

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 25



SCRIPTURE READING:
ROMANS 12:17-21

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- In what area of your life do you need to implement this command to "overcome evil with good"?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the character of Jesus and help you respond to evil with his love.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS BE WITH GOD'S PEOPLE. **REVELATION 22:21**

THURSDAY
MAY 23

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

PSALM 148:1B

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 26



SCRIPTURE READING:

GENESIS 50:15-21

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- What allows Joseph to forgive his brothers for the horrible way they treated him?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Pray that God would help you focus less on the painful details of how others have treated you and more on the amazing plan God has for the world.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS BE WITH GOD'S PEOPLE. **REVELATION 22:21**

Growth **GUIDE**

FRIDAY
MAY 24

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

PSALM 148:1B

PSALM OF THE DAY:

Psalm 27



SCRIPTURE READING:

MATTHEW 26:47-56

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- As you read today's passage, what stood out? Was there a particular word, phrase, or idea that caught your attention?
- In what relationship do you need to "put your sword back in its place"?
- Spend a few minutes talking with God through prayer about this passage. Ask Jesus to transform your heart to more fully reflect his.

NOTES

BENEDICTION: THE GRACE OF THE LORD JESUS BE WITH GOD'S PEOPLE. **REVELATION 22:21**

