

Weekly Devotions 13th July - 19th July



A key way that we are going to be transformed as individuals and as a community is through consistent, meaningful engagement with God's Word. Daily Bible reading and meditating on Scripture is an ordinary

means of grace through which God is delighted to work out His purposes in our lives. Each day is divided nicely into the following sections:

Prepare Just a simple moment of quiet and then a simple prayer as you set aside time to engage in God's Word.

Read The day's reading. Some weeks it will be different bits of a passage, some weeks it will be the same passage repeated picking out different elements.

Write A good way to familiarise ourselves with Scripture is to write it out as we are forced then to really concentrate.

Learn Hiding God's word in our hearts is a great goal so each day you'll be invited to learn just one verse to mull over during the day.

Focus This will be a question to help understand the passage. Try and be as thorough in answering as possible, chasing down all the possible angles.

Reflect This will be an extension question aimed at helping you reflect and relate to what you have read.

Pray There will be one thing to pray for at the end of each day, hopefully useful as a springboard to launch you in to praying through other things.

Hopefully all this will take no more than 15 minutes in total. There is not a better way we could spend

this time.

Monday

Prepare: 'Thank you that you are a God who has revealed yourself to me in your Word.'

Read: Mark 4:1-4:25

Write: 4:20

Learn: 4:20

Focus: What seems to be the twofold purpose of the parables?

Reflect: Are you 'listening' to what God is saying in his Word? How do you know if you are listening?

Pray: 'Help me be a hearer and doer of your Word today, Lord.'

Tuesday

Prepare: 'I praise you that are a great God.'

Read: Psalm 145:1-7

Write: 145:3

Learn: 145:4

Focus: What does the psalmist praise God for in these verses?

Reflect: Are you making every effort to commend God to the 'generations' in your life?

Pray: 'Cultivate a spirit of thankfulness within me today Lord.'

Wednesday

Prepare: 'Lord Jesus, thank you that your Kingdom is not of this world.'

Read: Mark 4:26-4:34

Write: 4:27

Learn: 4:31-32

Focus: How does Jesus say that the kingdom of God like a mustard seed?

Reflect: How does this truth encourage you today?

Pray: 'Lord, thank you that your Kingdom will endure forever.'

Thursday

Prepare: 'Thank you that you don't treat me as I deserve.'

Read: Psalm 145:8-13

Write: 145:9

Learn: 145:13

Focus: Who does the psalmist know God to be in verses 8&9?

Reflect: Spend some time meditating on verses 8&9. Do you know this God in your own life?

Pray: 'Thank you for your amazing grace.'

Friday

Prepare: 'Thank you that you are the all powerful God.'

Read: Mark 4:35 - 5:43

Write: 4:41

Learn: 5:20

Focus: From these 3 miracle accounts, what does Mark want us to see that Jesus has authority over?

Reflect: What will it mean for you today to know that Jesus has authority over all things?

Pray: 'Thank you that I can trust you with my life today Lord Jesus.'

Saturday

Prepare: 'I am your sheep and you are my shepherd.'

Read: Psalm 145:14-21

Write: 145:16

Learn: 145:18

Focus: What words does the psalmist use to convey the truth of God's provision and goodness?

Reflect: What promises about God's character can you cling to today from these verses?

Pray: 'Father God, help me know you near today.'

Sunday

Read Morning & Evening: Read Mark 4:1-5:3 & Psalm 145