

Weekly Devotions 31st Aug – 6th Sept



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 – 31st August

Prepare: Father God hear the cry of my heart and work your Word into my life.

Read: Psalm 56

Write: vs. 3

Learn: vs. 3

Focus: The situation of the Psalm is David being a prisoner of his enemies, can you see that in the Psalm?

Reflect: When you are harassed and troubled, is your first response to cry for mercy to God?

Pray: Lord walk with me every step of this day, may I cling to you and seek your face throughout it.

Tuesday – 1st September

Prepare: Help me today to know that I know you.

Read: 1 John 4:7-12

Write: vs. 9

Learn: vs. 9

Focus: How many times does John use the word love in this passage?

Reflect: How does God love for us shape how we love one another?

Pray: Father thank you that you have loved us completely. Help me love like you today.

Wednesday – 2nd September

Prepare: Father God take your Word and plant it deep in my heart that it may grow and bear fruit.

Read: Psalm 56

Write: vs. 4

Learn: vs. 4

Focus: List or underline all the things David writes that his enemies are afflicting him with.

Reflect: If you were in David's situation how would you have written this Psalm?

Pray: Father God help me know that you are bigger than my situation, help me glorify you in it all.

Thursday – 3rd September

Prepare: Father God thank you for the gospel, shape me in it I pray.

Read: 1 John 4:13-21

Write: vs. 15

Learn: vs. 15

Focus: Look at the three 'Whoever' statement in this passage, what is John saying?

Reflect: How confident are you your life matches up to them?

Pray: Father God help me know the presence of your indwelling Spirit helping me love others.

Friday – 4th September

Prepare: Father thank you for this week, help me trust you more as a result of what I have learnt of you.

Read: Psalm 56

Write: vs. 13

Learn: vs. 13

Focus: What is the antidote that David lists to the strife that he is in? (vs.3, 4, 7, 8, 12 & 13)

Reflect: How content are you to leave wickedness and hurt for God to sort out?

Pray: Father God thank you that you are the righteous judge of all the earth. Help me trust that today.

Saturday

Prepare: Father God thank you Jesus is your promised, anointed and sovereign king.

Read: 1 John 5:1-4

Write: vs. 3

Learn: vs. 3

Focus: How is love for God expressed in this passage?

Reflect: When John writes that God's commands are not burdensome do you agree?

Pray: Help me love your Word, live your Word as a mark of my love for you and others.

Sunday

Read Morning & Evening: Psalm 56 & 1 John 4:7-5:4a