

Weekly Devotions

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.

Week 9: 2nd March – 8th March

Monday 2nd March:

Prepare: 'Help me know that you are in control.'

Read: Acts 19

Write: v. 20 _____

Learn: v. 20

Focus: What was Paul preaching in Ephesus?

Reflect: What two different responses do you see in Ephesus to Paul's preaching (vs. 8, 18 & vs. 9, 28, 29).

Pray: 'Help me live for you in this world that is hostile to the gospel.'

Tuesday 3rd March:

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

Read: Psalm 119:97-104

Write: v. 97 _____

Learn: v. 97

Focus: How does the psalmist indicate that he knows God's word is better than the words of the world?

Reflect: Take time to think about how the psalmist feels about God's word as expressed in v. 103.

Pray: 'Help me cherish your word above all others.'

Wednesday 4th March:

Prepare: 'I praise you that you are a gloriously gracious God'

Read: Ephesians 1:1-6

Write: v. 3 _____

Learn: v. 4

Focus: When, how, how much, and where has God blessed the Christian at v. 3?

Reflect: What does it mean for us to be 'in Christ'?

Pray: 'Father, help me grasp how much you have blessed me in Jesus.'

Thursday 5th March:

Prepare: 'Help me to be still today and know that you are God.'

Read: Psalm 119:105-112

Write: v. 105 _____

Learn: v. 105

Focus: What imagery does the psalmist use to describe the role God's Word plays in his life at v. 105?

Reflect: Is this the role God's word plays in your life?

Pray: 'Lord, lead me by your Word today.'

Friday 6th March:

Prepare: 'Thank you for rescuing me.'

Read: Ephesians 1:7-14

Write: v. 10 _____

Learn: v. 10

Focus: What words, in vs. 7-10, describe how God has united all things to himself?

Reflect: What is to be the response of God's people in light of what God has done?

Pray: 'I thank you God that my salvation is all of you.'

Saturday 7th March:

Prepare: 'Thank you that you are a shelter for your people.'

Read: Psalm 119:113-120

Write: v. 114 _____

Learn: v. 114

Focus: What is it that the psalmist detests about the double-minded in this psalm?

Reflect: In what ways have you been one who follows God with your lips but fails to follow his Word?

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

Sunday 8th March:

Read Ephesians 1:1-14 before the morning service.

Read Psalm 119:97-120 after the evening service.