



Below is a guide for Sunday worship, daily Bible readings and community group discussion.

Worship Guide for Sunday:

- Get a Bible. Start the video. We will open with a reading from Psalm 46 and a couple comments. When prompted, pause the video and do what Psalm 46 says in 8: look at the works of God. Take time either by yourself or with others to recount some of the works of God in creation, in your life, in history, in the church, and in saving us. Take a few moments to praise God in prayer for those things.
- Watch the teaching on Mark 2:1-17.
- After the video is over, reflect on the following: you will see throughout Mark that crowds followed Jesus everywhere but many (actually most) of the people did not commit to following Jesus. It's possible to be around Jesus and even like Jesus without actually following Him. How does this challenge you? These two events are part of a unit in Mark from Mark 2:1-3:6 in which controversy grows around Jesus. Why were the scribes and Pharisees so upset with Jesus? What is so great about forgiveness of sins and how is it our greatest need? In the Bible, healing of the lame was a picture of what happens when God restores everything. Likewise, the Bible often pictures God eating with people at a great feast when He restores everything. Jesus is showing that God's Kingdom is breaking in and all are welcome to enter by faith regardless of their past. How does this encourage you? Jesus is concerned with the brokenness in our world and has acted to address both our physical suffering and our greater need of being alienated from God. How does this message encourage you in what you are facing today? Jesus had a ministry of both teaching and healing although he did more teaching than healing. Why is it important that we have a ministry of word and deed? In the story of Levi, what is Jesus' point to the Pharisees? Do you see any of the Pharisees in you and in the way that you look at other people? Notice in both of these stories that people bring their friends to Jesus. How can you bring others to Jesus that they might be healed too?
- Take a few minutes to confess your sins and thank God for His forgiveness through Jesus
- Close in prayer especially remembering to pray for those within our church family who are hurting (people are going through economic hardships, loneliness, missed experiences, worry, confusion, etc), for our government and leaders, and for our church to be strengthened and remain unified and on mission during this time.

Reading for the Week:

3/23: Mark 8

3/24: Mark 9

3/25: Mark 10

3/26: Mark 11

3/27: Mark 12

***In addition to Mark, we encourage you to read at least a Psalm a day.

Questions for personal reflection as you read the Bible this week:

1. What are you learning/what is God teaching you as you read?
2. What questions do you have?
3. What are you learning about Jesus? Who is He? What does it mean to follow Him?
4. What do these verses teach you about God? Yourself? Sin?
5. What are ways that you can apply what you are reading?
6. Who do you need to pray for and reach out to? How will you share God's love and tell others about Jesus this week?

For Group Leaders and Group Discussion

Use zoom to connect with group members. The first 40 meetings are free. There is a need to use this time wisely. So divide your time into three increments:

- Check in: ask each person to tell the group how they are doing and how the group can pray for them.
- Discuss sermon and reading: what has God been teaching you through His Word and the teaching from Sunday? How can you apply what you are reading? How are you sharing the love of Jesus with others or how can you share the love of Jesus with others this week?
- Read a passage of Scripture together and pray: Read a Psalm together or read Mark 8 together.