



Weekly Devotionals & Notes

February 11-16



“Go Deep”

Monday, February 11 Read Psalm 145

As you ponder the beauty of the poetry and the majesty of God here described, reflect on the call and responsibility of the faithful follower of God (here, the psalmist, David). What responsibility does he have here and what might that tell us about the core of our own faithfulness and discipleship? _____

Tuesday, February 12 Read Genesis 12:1-3 & Genesis 22:15-18

The first passage is God’s promise to Abraham and his descendants, but how is this promise not for them alone? _____

In the second passage we see the results of Abraham’s monumental test of faith. Once again, how is Abraham called to more than just caring for his own family? _____

What might that suggest about the way any of us responds to God’s call? _____

Wednesday, February 13 Read Luke 5:1-11

Why does Jesus tell the future disciples to let down their nets again in deeper water? _____

How is he foreshadowing the change of direction their lives will take? _____

Sermon notes for “Go Deep”

February 10, 2019

- 1. Being Christian is about going beyond where we feel comfortable or confident.**
- 2. A shallow faith is no faith at all.**
- 3. We are called to go deep in...**
 - ...knowledge.**
 - ...sacrifice.**
 - ...service.**
 - ...love.**

Why is Simon Peter frightened here (v.8)? _____
What does this passage tell us about our own understanding of Christ's call on our lives and what is the "deeper water" he is calling *you* to risk? _____

Thursday, February 14 Read Romans 12:1-21

In light of v.1 and as you reflect on this passage, what is the true meaning of worship?

How is it different from what we do on Sunday morning and how is it similar?

What does this passage say about the meaning of discipleship and why do so many shy away from it? _____

Discuss this with God in prayer today.

Friday, February 15 Read 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

More than simply going to church once a week, based on this passage, what would Paul describe as the mission and life of a truly committed disciple? _____

_____ How do you see the church in general operating as ministers of reconciliation in this broken and hurting world? _____

Where is our church in particular doing this? _____

In what way are you personally an integral part of that mission? _____

Saturday, February 16 Read Joshua 24:12b-28

After first reminding the people of all God had done for them, Joshua commands them to live lives reflecting their dependence upon God and focused on service to His Kingdom. The choice at v.15 is as stark as it is serious. List some of the ways you and your household have answered Joshua's challenge. _____

How deeply are you invested in the Kingdom and does it show to the people around you?



Small Group Discussion Guide

February 4-9

1. Begin by reading the passages from Genesis that were given for Tuesday, February 12 and discuss the questions for that day.

- *In what ways is Abraham living into the statement that being a disciple requires us to go beyond where we are comfortable and confident?*
- *If that statement is true, why do you think it is? What does that tell us about God and about ourselves?*

2. Read Luke 5:1-11 and discuss your answers from Wednesday's reading. Then reflect on the following:

- *In Sunday's sermon it was suggested that a "shallow faith is no faith at all." Do you agree? Why or why not?*
- *In light of this gospel reading, what might a "shallow faith" look like?*
- *What are your limits as far as your active discipleship? In other words, what is the point (or ministry, or service, or sacrifice) at which you echo Simon Peter and say, "Leave me alone?"*

3. Reflect on this point from the sermon and the scripture readings:

Like Simon Peter and the first disciples, we too are called to go deep in...

- **...knowledge.**
How are you going *deeper* in your understanding of Jesus, the scriptures and the practice of the faith?
- **...sacrifice.**
What part do you and your talents play in building up the church? How is that part expanding?
- **...service.**
Where are you being called to give up confidence in yourself & the world (often expressed in terms of time and money) and how are you responding?
- **...love.**
Where and how do you build relationships, share grace and reach out to bring in others?