



9/1 MONDAY: Matthew 4:12-17

1: When was a time God opened your eyes to see his light shining in the middle of your darkness?

2: How would you communicate Christ's message he preached, "repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near," in your own words?

- How can you personally respond to that same message today?

3: Who do you know who is "living in the land of the shadow of death" who needs to see the light of Christ dawn?

- Pause to pray for them as you write a word of encouragement to send them today.

9/2 TUESDAY: John 1:4-5

1: Even though God's Word says life is found in Christ, where are you most often tempted to believe life is found outside of Christ?

- What do you discover when you seek to find your life outside of Christ?

2: What do you know about the life and character of Jesus that shines like a light in darkness for all humanity?

3: What hope do you find in the promise that darkness cannot overcome the light of Christ?

- Who can you share that hope with today?

9/3 WEDNESDAY: Luke 4:14-21

1: Even though Jesus was God, it was his custom to go into the synagogue on the Sabbath day in his hometown.

- What can we learn from Jesus' custom to apply to our own lives?

2: What did the Spirit of the Lord anoint and send Jesus to proclaim?

- What are we – as followers of Jesus – anointed and sent by God to proclaim?

3: Why is the anointing and sending of the Spirit necessary for gospel proclamation?

- Who is God anointing and sending you to share the good news of Jesus with today?

9/4 THURSDAY: Acts 10:36-38

1: What kind of peace can we receive through Jesus?

- Why is peace through Jesus good news for all?
- Who can you share that good news of peace through Jesus with today?

2: What did Jesus – anointed with the Holy Spirit and power – go around and do?

- What would it look like for you to follow in his footsteps today?

3: How are you encouraged by the truth, “because God was with him,” as you seek to do good and bring healing to those you know who are still under the power of the devil?

- Why do you not need to be afraid of those who are still under the power of the devil?

9/5 FRIDAY: Romans 13:11-12

1: The hour has come for us to wake up from our slumber.

- What is God calling you to wake up from and wake up to in this hour?

2: What deeds of darkness do you need to put aside today?

- How do you plan to do that?
- Who can you ask to pray for you and keep you accountable?

3: What do you think the armor of light is (vs. 14)?

- How can we put on the armor of light?
- Why do you think we need to put on the armor of light?

9/8 MONDAY: Matthew 5:1-5

1: What do you think the word “blessed” means in this context?

- Why do you think the people described in this passage are blessed?

2: When you consider those who are poor in spirit, meek, and those who mourn, which most resonates with you?

- How are you encouraged by the promise attached to the state you most identify with?

3: What can you do today to comfort someone you know who is mourning – in the same way Christ has comforted you?

9/9 TUESDAY: Isaiah 61:1-3

1: Last Wednesday, we saw Jesus read from this scroll of Isaiah in the synagogue in Luke 4:14-21.

- Do you remember where Jesus stopped reading and closed the scroll?
- What line immediately followed that Jesus did not say was fulfilled in their hearing?
- Why do you think that made religious leaders upset?

2: What does God provide to those who are grieving?

- What do we learn about who God is from this passage?

3: When were you able to find beauty in ashes, joy in mourning, or praise in despair?

- How did you find those gifts in your grief?
- Who can you share that story with today?

9/10 WEDNESDAY: James 1:9-11

1: What high position do we have as believers that we can take pride in – even if we are living in humble circumstances from the world’s perspective (see Ephesians 2:4-7)?

2: What is it about those who are rich in the world’s eyes that will fade away, pass away, and be destroyed?

- How are you convicted by the closing phrase in this passage, “even while they go about their business?”

3: What business did you have in mind for today that may not align with God’s business?

- How can you seek to go about our Father’s business today?
- Who can you ask to keep you accountable to being about our Father’s business?

9/11 THURSDAY: 1 Samuel 2:7-8, Proverbs 3:34

1: When was a time God humbled you?

- When was a time God exalted you?
- What did God teach you through those experiences?
- Who can you share your story with today?

2: Let’s be honest, considering how you have been living your life lately (including online engagement), do you think you would be more likely to fall into the category of “proud mocker” or “humble and oppressed?”

- How might this passage make you think twice about how you choose to live in-person and online today?

3: Ask God to show you who or what you may have mocked in the past that you can humbly take to God in prayer today.

- If you have mocked someone and need to seek their forgiveness, let today be the day you apologize and pursue reconciliation.

9/12 FRIDAY: Isaiah 49:10-13

- 1: What do you notice about God's character in this passage?
- 2: When was a time God turned what felt like a mountain you needed to climb into a road you could walk on hand-in-hand with him?
- 3: Who is someone you can rejoice with today as you thank God for his enduring compassion and guidance in your life?

9/15 MONDAY: Matthew 5:6-8

- 1: What do you think it means to be "pure in heart?"
 - How can we pursue that purity?
 - Why do you think the pure in heart will see God?
- 2: In what way do you personally hunger and thirst for righteousness?
 - What connection do you notice between the promise in verse 6 and the promise of Matthew 6:33?
- 3: What mercy has God shown you in the last 24 hours?
 - How can you extend that mercy to someone else in the next 24 hours?

9/16 TUESDAY: Titus 3:3-8

- 1: What are the marks of God's mercy in this passage?
 - What are we justified by?
 - What hope do we have?
- 2: What passions and pleasures from the past are working to deceive and enslave you in the present?
 - What can you do to combat those lies and temptations today?
- 3: Who can you ask to pray for you today to remind you what is true of who God is (Savior), what God has done for you (shown mercy), and who you are in him (renewed and free)?

9/17 WEDNESDAY: Psalm 51:10-13

1: What is the joy of your salvation?

- Do you need God to restore that joy in you today?

2: What is the driving motivation behind the psalmist's requests of God (vs. 13)?

- How do the psalmist's requests relate to teaching sinners God's ways so that they will turn back to God?

3: If you were asked to teach God's ways to someone, where would you begin?

- What would be the top 3 lessons you would want to teach about the ways of God?
- Who can you begin to share those lessons with today?

9/18 THURSDAY: Psalm 24:3-8, 1 John 3:1-3

1: What do you think seeking God (Psalm 24:6) and hoping in God (1 John 3:3) have in common?

2: What do these passages teach us about who God is?

- What do these passages teach us about what God desires for us?

3: How can you seek God and hope in God today for yourself and for someone else?

9/19 FRIDAY: Hosea 6:6, Micah 6:6-8

1: What does God desire from us (Hosea 6:6)?

- What does God require of us (Micah 6:8)?

2: What do mercy and acknowledgment of God have to do with one another?

- Likewise, what do acting justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God have to do with one another?

3: Of all the life practices listed above, where do you feel like you are doing well and where do you feel like you are struggling?

- Who do you know who seems to have a firm grip on whatever you are struggling with?

- Reach out and encourage the work of God you see in their life and ask them how they have grown to flourish in that area.

9/22 MONDAY: Matthew 5:9-16

1: What do you think Jesus means when he calls his followers “the salt of the earth?”

- Along those lines, how can salt lose its saltiness?

2: Why does Jesus encourage us to let our light shine?

- When are you most tempted to hide your light?

3: What is one step you can take today to let your light shine?

- What brother or sister in Christ can you encourage to keep shining bright today?

9/23 TUESDAY: Colossians 4:2-6

1: Why is Paul in chains?

- What is Paul requesting prayer for?

2: In your own words, what does it mean to “let your conversation be always full of grace [and] seasoned with salt?”

- How are you convicted and encouraged by this call?

3: How might being watchful and thankful in prayer aid us in making the most of every opportunity?

- Ask God to open your eyes to all the opportunities he provides for you to have conversations full of grace and seasoned with salt today.

9/24 WEDNESDAY: Romans 12:9-21

1: What life practices are included in this passage that could help you to “if it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone?”

2: What is one practice that particularly resonates with you that you can seek to embody and bless someone with today?

3: If “love must be sincere,” how can we ensure our love is sincere?

- How would you define love that is not sincere?

9/25 THURSDAY: 2 Timothy 3:12, John 15:18-21, 1 Peter 4:12-16

1: Why do you think “everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted?”

- Why should believers rejoice when we participate in the sufferings of Christ?
- How have you been persecuted or insulted for your faith?

2: Historically, wherever believers are persecuted, the church grows.

- Why do you think that is?

3: Pause to pray for the persecuted church around the world to hold fast to the hope that is ours in Jesus.

- Who can you invite to pray with you for the persecuted church today?

9/26 FRIDAY: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

1: What does it mean to be Christ’s ambassador?

- How can you remember that is your identity in Christ today and every day?

2: What is our “message of reconciliation?”

- What is our “ministry of reconciliation?”

3: Who can you share this message and ministry of reconciliation with today?

9/29 MONDAY: Matthew 5:17-30

1: What is the difference between those who are called the least and the greatest in the kingdom of heaven according to this passage (vs. 17-20)?

- Why do you think Jesus emphasizes both practicing and teaching?

2: What point is Jesus making about the Law in this entire passage?

- How are you encouraged by the truth that Jesus came to fulfill the Law on our behalf?

3: Jesus is challenging us to not mess around with sin and to do whatever it takes to cut the flourishing of sin off at its source.

- Where have you allowed sin to run rampant in your own life (even sin no one else can see)?
- What step of faith can you take to cut that sin off at its source today by the power of the Holy Spirit?
- Who can you ask to encourage you as you pursue the freedom that has already been accomplished for you in Christ?

9/30 TUESDAY: Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Jeremiah 31:33

1: In light of yesterday's reading to do whatever it takes to cut the flourishing of sin off at its source, how are we encouraged to do whatever it takes in this passage from Deuteronomy?

2: God expected that his word would be included in his people's conversations throughout the day every day.

- Where in your life do you talk about God's word most often?
- Where in your life do you forget or find it difficult to talk about God's word?

3: Considering all the ways the people of God injected God's word into their everyday lives, what is something you can do to inject more of God's word into your daily life and your interactions with others starting today?

- Who can you share God's word with today?

10/1 WEDNESDAY: Romans 12:1-2

1: Why do you think Paul begins his challenge with, "in view of God's mercy?"

- What do you think it means to be a living sacrifice?

2: How can we renew our minds?

- When was a time you struggled to discern God's will, but by renewing your mind, you were able to test and approve God's will?

3: What in your life do you need to lay on the altar before God in prayer today as you seek his will over and above your own?

- Who can you invite to pray with you?

10/2 THURSDAY: 1 John 3:11-18

1: How do we know we have been brought from death to life in Christ (vs. 14)?

- Why do you think loving each other is evidence of Christ's life in us?

2: How do we know what love is (vs. 16)?

- Pause to thank God for someone who has demonstrated this love of Christ to you, and (if possible) extend a word of gratitude toward them today.

3: What could it look like for you to love someone else in action and in truth today?

10/3 FRIDAY: James 1:19-25

1: Why do we deceive ourselves when we merely listen to the word of God?

2: How does the word of God save us and give us freedom?

- What promise is associated with doing what the word of God says?

3: What does James encourage men and women to take note of (vs. 19)?

- Since "everyone" includes you, in what area of self-discipline are you most desperate for God's help?
- Ask God to help you grow to be more like Christ in that area today.
- Who is someone you can go out of your way to listen to in love today?

10/6 MONDAY: Matthew 5:31-48

1: What theme do you take away from the different times Jesus says in this passage, "you have heard that it was said... but I tell you?"

- What is the difference between what was spoken in the past and what Jesus was speaking in the present?

2: Why might loving our enemies and praying for those who persecute us signify we are children of our Father in heaven (vs. 44)?

3: How can you love someone who does not seem to love you or greet someone who you may not naturally engage with today?

10/7 TUESDAY: Acts 7:54-60

1: How does Stephen's prayer for those who are stoning him to death remind you of Jesus' prayer from the cross (Luke 23:34)?

2: What did Stephen see that he shared with the members of the Sanhedrin?

- Why do you think what Stephen saw helped him to endure suffering and pray for his persecutors – even unto death?

3: What can we learn from Stephen's attitude facing death that we can apply to our attitude as we face life today?

- Who do you know who seems to live eyes fixed on Jesus and forgiving others like Stephen did?
- Encourage them in the way you see God at work in their life, and ask them to share with you how that has become characteristic of their lifestyle.

10/8 WEDNESDAY: Luke 10:25-37

1: Break it down and make a numbered list of exactly what the Samaritan did for the man who was attacked, stripped, beaten, and left for dead by robbers on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho (starting with the fact that the Samaritan saw the man).

- What can we learn from this story about being a good neighbor like the good Samaritan?

2: How does the story Jesus told answer the question, "who is my neighbor?"

3: What is a mark of loving our neighbor (vs. 37)?

- How can you "go and do likewise" today?
- Who has been a good neighbor to you?

- Take time to express gratitude to your good neighbor today.

10/9 THURSDAY: 1 John 4:16-21

1: What is the difference between knowing God's love and relying on God's love?

- When was a time you actively relied on God's love and he proved himself faithful?

2: Based on this passage, why do we love (vs. 19)?

- What do you think "in this world we are like Jesus" means in this context?

3: How are you convicted by verse 20?

- Who is a brother and sister you need to love like Jesus today?

10/10 FRIDAY: 1 Corinthians 9:19-27

1: How does Paul's humility in this passage reflect the humility of Christ in Philippians 2:3-8?

2: Examine 1 Corinthians 9:23.

- What value does the gospel have for Paul?
- What do you think Paul means when he speaks of sharing in the gospel's blessings?

3: When it comes to life in Christ and living in humility for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ, do you ever feel like you are "running aimlessly?"

- What step could you take today to "run in such a way as to get the prize?"
- Who is someone you can become all things to (or humbly seek to discover or create common ground with) today for the sake of the gospel?

10/13 MONDAY: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

1: Why do you think God cares if we give, pray, or fast to be seen by others or not?

2: How have you already received rewards from our Father in heaven when you have given, prayed, or fasted in secret?

3: Who can you give to in secret today?

- What can you pray for in secret today?
- When can you fast in secret today?

10/14 TUESDAY: Matthew 4:1-4

1: After Jesus fasted 40 days in the wilderness, what does Jesus say is the source of life and more satisfying than bread alone?

- How might the practice of fasting teach us to hunger for God?

2: In an average week, how often do you: open your pantry or refrigerator to get something to eat, run to the grocery store, grab a bite from a restaurant, or pick up a snack from a drive-thru?

- Comparatively, in an average week, how often do you open your Bible to receive a word from God?

3: What is one way you can seek God in his word as often as you seek food to satisfy your hunger?

- Who can you invite to join you in this practice?

10/15 WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 58:2-11

1: What does God not appreciate about the attitude people have toward fasting?

2: Based on this passage, what does God expect true fasting to produce?

3: How can this set apart time you are spending with God in his word today practically impact the way you live out in the world today?

- Who can you invite to join you as you bless others in the same way we read about in Isaiah 58 today?

10/16 THURSDAY: 1 Samuel 16:6-13

1: What is the difference between what people see and what God sees?

2: What do you think about the fact that God had chosen a king who originally was not even presented as an option to Samuel?

- What was David out doing that God could see?

3: What might “tending the sheep” look like for you today?

- Could it be that God not only sees you tending the sheep, but he is equipping you for what he has prepared for you as you faithfully tend the sheep without recognition?
- Who do you see faithfully tending the sheep entrusted to them who you can encourage today?

10/17 FRIDAY: Daniel 10:1-12, 18-19

1: What did God provide for Daniel as he fasted (or went without) for three weeks?

2: What did Daniel set his mind to do that God appreciated and responded to (vs. 12)?

3: When was a time you felt weak and overwhelmed, but when you sought after God in his word, he strengthened you by his word and in his presence?

- Who can you share that testimony with today?

10/20 MONDAY: Matthew 6:7-15

1: How are you encouraged by the truth that God our Father knows what we need before we ask him?

- Why do you think God still wants us to ask him for all we need?

2: What are the similarities and differences between the Lord’s prayer and the way you tend to lift your prayers to God?

3: Who is someone you can invite to pray the Lord’s prayer with you today?

10/21 TUESDAY: Mark 1:30-39

1: After Jesus spent the whole night healing Simon’s mother-in-law and many others, as well as casting out demons, what must he have believed about prayer to get up early the next morning to get away and pray?

- Who do you know who seems to have a consistent and thriving prayer life?

- Ask them to share any advice or words of encouragement that may aid you as you discover your own rhythms of prayer with God.

2: What role do you think Jesus praying in solitude played in his response to Simon and his companions in verse 38?

- Even though “everyone” was looking for Jesus in that community, who ultimately determined how Jesus would spend his day?

3: Who do you feel like has the biggest say in how you spend your day?

- What practice, discipline, or boundary can you build into your day to follow Jesus’ footsteps to seek God’s will for how you should spend your day over and above what others are wanting from you?

10/22 WEDNESDAY: Luke 11:1-13

1: What do the first letters of Ask, Seek, and Knock spell?

- What does Jesus promise to those who ask?
- What does Jesus promise to those who seek?
- What does Jesus promise to those who knock?

2: What do we learn about the character of God in this passage?

- How might your rhythms in prayer shift if you fully embraced God’s promises in this passage?

3: What is something God is inviting you to ASK him for today, and who can you invite to join you in your asking, seeking, and knocking?

10/23 THURSDAY: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

1: What is God’s will for us in Christ Jesus?

- Why do you think this is God’s will for us in Christ Jesus?

2: What is something you have been seeking God’s will about?

- How are you challenged and encouraged by God’s unchanging will for you in the face of changing circumstances?

3: Why can we rejoice always in Christ?

- Why do we need to pray continually in Christ?
- Why are we able to give thanks in all circumstances in Christ?
- Who can you encourage with this truth today?

10/24 FRIDAY: Philippians 4:6-9

1: Why do we not need to be anxious about anything?

- What does Paul propose we do when anxiety rises?

2: Why do you think the peace of God transcends all understanding?

- How might thinking about what (or better yet, who) Paul describes in verse 8 contribute to our peace?

3: How have you personally experienced the peace of God guard your heart and mind in Christ Jesus?

- Who can you share that testimony with today?

10/27 MONDAY: Matthew 6:19-24

1: What kind of treasure does Jesus encourage us to store up for ourselves?

- If our heart is where our treasure is, where is your heart today (in heaven or on earth)?

2: How can you guard against storing up treasure for yourself on earth today?

- What is one step you can take to store up treasure for yourself in heaven today?

3: Why do you think what we allow ourselves to see can illuminate or darken our whole body?

- What step of faith and obedience is God inviting you to take today to guard your eyes from darkness and to seek light?
- Who can you ask to pray for you and keep you accountable?

10/28 TUESDAY: Colossians 3:1-4

1: What do you think Paul means when he writes, “for you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God?”

2: How would your perspective for today shift if you looked at your life like you truly have already died, and now your real life is hidden (for you to seek and find) with Christ in God?

3: What practice can help us live with heaven on our minds and our hearts while we are still living here on earth (keeping in mind, heaven is “where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God”)?

- Who can you invite to join you in this practice?

10/29 WEDNESDAY: Luke 12:13-21

1: What do you think it means to be “rich toward God?”

2: How have you done the same thing this rich man did by trying to create more space to hoard your surplus rather than giving it away?

- What step can you take today to “guard against all kinds of greed?”

3: If “life does not consist in an abundance of possessions,” what is life about?

- Who do you know who can help remind you of what life in Christ is truly about?

10/30 THURSDAY: 1 Timothy 6:5-12, 17-19

1: Has anyone ever robbed you of the truth by trying to convince you godliness is a means to financial gain?

- Why is it better news to discover “godliness with contentment is great gain?”

2: Take time to list out what people who want to get rich fall into.

- When we flee from all those things and pursue life in Christ, what are we taking hold of?

3: Who is someone you know who seems to live a “life that is truly life,” or who has taken hold of eternal life in Christ?

- Ask them if they can share what steps they take to live in the truth that godliness with contentment is great gain.

10/31 FRIDAY: Hebrews 13:5, James 5:1-5

1: Why should the fact that God said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you,” inspire us to keep our lives free from the love of money?

- According to Hebrews 13:5, what do we have?

2: How are you convicted by the passage in James?

- What truth is there for us to apply to our own lives?
- What is something associated with living in luxury and self-indulgence that you can give up so you can give to someone in need today?

3: If we cannot serve both God and money – because we will end up hating one and loving the other, or we will be devoted to one and despise the other (Matthew 6:24) – what step can you take today to invigorate your love for God and devotion to him?

11/3 MONDAY: Matthew 6:25-34

1: How are you encouraged by the truth that you are of far greater value to God than the birds of the air and the lilies of the field he feeds and clothes each day?

- How much more will he care for you?

2: What do you find yourself seeking more often – God’s kingdom, or food and clothes?

- What promise is provided for those who seek first God’s kingdom?

3: Based on this passage, how does Jesus seem to view worry?

- What is something you can begin (or continue) doing today to help you obey Christ’s command in verse 34?
- Who can you ask to keep you accountable to this lifestyle of taking things one day at a time?

11/4 TUESDAY: Psalm 23:1-6

1: What promises can you cling to from Psalm 23 to combat worry in your own life?

- What is one way you can remind yourself of these promises, that you might cling to them?

2: Why is there no need for us to fear even when we walk through the darkest valley (vs. 4)?

- How is that good news for you today?

3: When was a time in your life when it did not seem like God's goodness and love were following you at the time, but now you can look back and testify with the psalmist, "surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life?"

- Who can you share that testimony with today?

11/5 WEDNESDAY: Psalm 55:22, 1 Peter 5:7

1: Have you ever noticed the call to cast all our cares upon God is found in both the Old and New Testaments?

- Why does God want us to cast all our cares upon him?

2: To cast means to throw, hurl, or fling.

- What picture comes to mind when you imagine casting your cares on God?
- What promise is available to those who cast their cares on God?

3: What cares do you need to cast upon God today?

- Who can you encourage with the truth you received from God today?

11/6 THURSDAY: Proverbs 3:5-6, 23-26

1: Of all the promises included in these verses, which promises are you most in need of today?

- What do these promises teach us about God's character?

2: How is God inviting you to trust him with all your heart rather than leaning on your own understanding today?

3: What is one promise from today's reading you can look for opportunities to share with others throughout today?

11/7 FRIDAY: Romans 8:31-39, Psalm 44:22

1: If God is for us, who can be against us?

- Who can condemn us?
- Who or what can separate us from the love of God?
- How are you encouraged by these truths today?

2: Why did the people of God "face death all day long?"

- Where did victory come from in Psalm 44:3?
- Why did God fight for his people in Psalm 44:3?

3: Who are we "through him who loved us" (vs. 37)?

- What step can you take to live in your identity in Christ today, and who can you invite to join you?

11/10 MONDAY: Matthew 7:1-12

1: Why do you think it is often easier for us to focus on a speck of sawdust in someone else's eye instead of the plank in our own?

- Why do you think Jesus uses objects stuck in our eyes as an example of judgment and hypocrisy?

2: Have you ever noticed how the speck is made from the same material as the plank?

- When was a time you were quick to judge someone for something you were also struggling with (even if you did not recognize it at the time)?
- Did judging someone else's struggles make you feel better about your own?

3: Why does Jesus command us not to judge?

- What fruit has judging others produced in your own life?
- What judgment are you carrying that you need to lay at the feet of Jesus today?

- If you have judged someone and need to seek their forgiveness, let today be the day you apologize and pursue reconciliation.

11/11 TUESDAY: Luke 6:37-38

1: How does this passage compare to what we read in Matthew 7:1-5 yesterday?

- Are you more motivated by a promise or a warning to obey Jesus' command not to judge?

2: Besides withholding judgment and condemnation from others, what does Jesus command us to do for others?

- Have you ever noticed how the word "give" is built into the word "forgive?"
- How are we able to extend the gift of forgiveness to others?

3: When was a time you gave to someone, but wound up receiving equal to or greater than what you gave?

- What is God inviting you to gift to someone today?

11/12 WEDNESDAY: Galatians 5:13-15

1: What were we called to be?

- What does freedom have to do with serving one another humbly in love?

2: What single command is the entire law fulfilled in?

- How does that work?

3: What do you think it means to "love your neighbor as yourself?"

- Who can you love like that today?

11/13 THURSDAY: Romans 2:1-4

1: Why do we not have the right to judge others (as fellow human beings)?

2: How does our judging others "show contempt for the riches of [God's] kindness, forbearance and patience?"

3: How has God's kindness personally led you to repentance?

- Who can you share that story with today?

11/14 FRIDAY: 1 John 5:13-15

1: What confidence do we have in approaching God?

- What do you think it means to ask according to God's will?
- Do you approach God with the same confidence we see in this passage?

2: Reflect on verse 15.

- How can we know we have what we have asked of God?

3: What do you need to confidently ask of God in accordance with his will today?

- In what way do you already have what you are asking of him?
- Who can you invite to join you in your asking?

11/17 MONDAY: Matthew 7:13-27

1: Reflect on verses 21-23.

- What difference do you detect between those who know about Jesus and those who truly know Jesus?

2: What is the value of not only hearing God's word, but putting God's word into practice (vs. 24-27)?

- What word from God did you hear today that you want to put into practice?

3: Once we all were walking on the broad road that leads to destruction.

- Who took time to tell you about the narrow gate so you could begin walking on the narrow road that leads to life?
- Who is someone you are praying enters through the narrow gate?
- How can you take time to serve that person today?

11/18 TUESDAY: Matthew 25:1-13

1: What do you think is the point of this parable Jesus told?

- How does this parable relate to what we read yesterday in Matthew 7 about the narrow gate, knowing a tree by its fruit, hearing God's word and putting it into practice, and especially Jesus saying he never knew those who were expecting to enter the kingdom of heaven?

2: How is God inviting you to keep watch and be ready for him today?

- How are you challenged and encouraged by the vision of pressing on in hope as you keep watch and remain ready for Christ's return – even if it seems delayed?

3: Who can you ask to keep you accountable to what you have received from God and offered to God today?

11/19 WEDNESDAY: John 10:1-10

1: Reflect on verse 10.

- Why does the thief come?
- Why did Jesus come?
- How might knowing why Jesus came help us to discern the voice and activity of God in our lives?

2: Why do the sheep follow Jesus (vs. 4)?

- How are you challenged and encouraged by a vision of Jesus' voice being so familiar, every other voice becomes unrecognizable in comparison to his?
- What can you do today to better recognize the voice of Jesus in your life?

3: Who is someone you know – especially someone in the next generation – who you can help learn how to discern the voice of God amidst all the other messages we are bombarded with each day?

11/20 THURSDAY: Luke 6:43-45

1: What is the relationship between trees and fruit?

- What truth is Jesus communicating in this passage?

2: What are some ways you store up evil in your heart – even if it is not intentional?

- What can you do today to store up good in your heart?

3: How are you convicted and encouraged by the truth, “the mouth speaks what the heart is full of?”

- What is something good God has filled your heart with today that you can speak into someone else’s life?

11/21 FRIDAY: John 15:1-8, 16-17

1: Why did Jesus choose us and appoint us (vs. 16)?

- According to this passage, how do we bear fruit?
- What keeps us from bearing fruit?

2: It may sound strange, but what is the fruit of our bearing fruit (vs. 8)?

- Why do you think God cares about us bearing fruit?

3: What have you learned this fall that has helped you to remain in Jesus – our true vine?

- Who can you teach what has been so transformative for you?