

# FAITH BIBLE READING

Nov 12-18, 2018

At Faith Baptist Fellowship, we ***Love God's Word and Prayer*** (Ephesians 6:17-18)! Take the 'sword of the Spirit' (God's Word) and persevere in prayer! In this year, ask God each day to speak directly to you from the Scripture portions you read.

*Our plan for 2018 will be taken from the Discipleship Journal Bible Reading Plan. Monday-Saturday we will focus on one main devotional passage; the additional readings will keep you on track to finish the entire Bible in one year. On Sunday, we will have a passage from the upcoming Sunday sermon along with questions for Faith Group discussion.*

*We suggest having a notebook and pen for answering questions and recording your thoughts/insights. Bring this notebook with you to Faith Group for discussions and prayer times. Select a quiet place and consistent time to read and pray.*

Abbreviations: **TAI** – Think About It | **PP** – Prayer Points

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12

### Read 1 John 2:12-17

**TAI:** Verses 12-14 seem to be poetic verse, in couplets. Note the “family” references that provide thematic structure to the poetry. What are the primary ideas John is trying to communicate in these lines? This family poem is then contrasted with loving the world. What three worldly temptations does John warn about? How are these three—lust, covetousness, pride—a source of temptation for you? Reflect on that; you might want to jot down thoughts on them, including reflections on temporary vs. eternal things.

**PP:** Thank God for the enormous privilege of being part of his forever family by faith in Jesus Christ. Thank him for each of the blessings noted in the poem (forgiveness of sins, overcoming the evil one, etc.). Tell God that you love him more than the world, but also acknowledge those things that are a source of temptation for you. Confess any known sin you have committed, particularly any that relate to lust, coveting, and pride. Ask God to give you an eternal perspective: discerning the difference between short-term delights and those which are godly and will last forever.

**Additional readings:** John 10:1-10; Job 10; Ezekiel 29-30

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

### Read 1 John 2:18-23

**TAI:** John is teaching that in the “last hour,” that is, the time leading up to Christ’s triumphant return to earth, his second coming, there will be “antichrists” who deny him. They may have once identified with Jesus but now deny the essential truth that Jesus is the Christ (the Messiah, the Son of Man) and thus deny the Trinity and the true gospel. So, one evidence of genuine saving faith is perseverance in the truth of Jesus as Christ and Lord, and one evidence of falsehood is the denial that Jesus is the Christ and Son of God.

**PP:** Ask God to protect you from believing falsehoods and lies about Jesus. Then pray that not only for yourself, but for family members and friends and for our church family as well. Ask God to expose false teachers who lead people astray. Praise God for the gift of his Son as our Savior and Messiah. Praise God for sending his Spirit to dwell in us. *Pray for our youth and children, and for Angela Myers and her teams who work with our young ones, for saving faith and life change.*

**Additional readings:** John 10:11-21; Job 11; Ezekiel 31-32

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

### Read 1 John 2:24-29

**TAI:** Read the passage through slowly at least two times. Then answer the following questions:

*What does it mean to abide in Christ?*

*What has God promised to his children?*

*When did God give you his anointing?*

*What does it mean to “practice righteousness?”*

**PP:** Express to God your great desire to daily walk with Jesus and abide in him. Ask God to help you daily preach the gospel to yourself, so that you abide in the truth of who Jesus is and what he has done for you. Ask God also to fill you with his Spirit today and help you walk in righteousness, choosing what is right and pleasing to him. Thank God for the precious gift of eternal life in his presence.

**Additional Readings:** John 10:22-42; Job 12; Ezekiel 33-34

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15

### Read 1 John 3:1-10

**TAI:** The affectionate, familial tone of the letter continues. It is a fact that believers are God's children NOW, and there's more to come in the future. That hope motivates us to purity of life. John writes in a repetitive fashion; notice how he circles back to a theme again and again: righteousness vs. lawlessness, purity vs. sin, the new birth in Christ vs. the ongoing practice of sin. Righteousness is expressed by love. John is here encouraging the reader to pursue holiness.

**PP:** Rejoice that in Christ you are a child of God. Praise God for his love and that he is your heavenly Father. Rejoice in hope of forever being like him! Tell God that you desire to live in holiness, with a passion for righteousness by faith in Christ. Confess to God that our nation seems to delight in lawlessness but tell the Father that you desire to be different, to live out your new birth. Thank God also that when we do sin we have an Advocate at the throne, Jesus.

**Additional Readings:** John 11:1-16; Job 13; Ezekiel 35-37

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16

### Read 1 John 3:11-18

**TAI:** [Note: the theme for the 2019 National Day of Prayer is "Love One Another."] This is a powerful passage to reflect on in light of the current trend of murderous sprees. Why do people kill? What is the evidence that we have passed from "death" to "life" through Jesus Christ? How did Christ set the greatest example of love? How do we "lay down our lives" for our fellow believers? What is the evidence that we are a loving church? In love, actions are greater than talk!

**PP:** Ponder the command "love one another" and then pray about it. Ask God to increase your capacity for loving others. Ask God to help you love with deeds and action, not just in words. As you examine your heart, do you find hatred there toward anyone? Confess it to God if you do. Ask him to give you grace to turn that hate into love. Ask God to move our nation from hate to love through the gospel.

Ask God to help us grow as a loving church.

**Additional Readings:** John 11:17-37; Job 14; Ezekiel 38-39

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

### Read 1 John 3:19-24

**TAI:** What do you think John means by the phrase, “God is greater than our heart”? John seems to be advocating for something we call at Faith “preaching the gospel to yourself.” In other words, it is crucial to remind yourself, often, of your new life in Christ, of your status as a child of God by faith in Jesus, of the practical implications of the cross and the resurrection. That way, when “your heart condemns you,” you can reply “I am a child of God! I have been made new. My sins are washed in the blood of the Lamb.” Our faith boils down in simplest form to this: believe on the Lord Jesus and love one another (v. 23).

**PP:** Pray through this paragraph, line-by-line and thought-by-thought. “Pray the gospel on your own behalf.” Thank God for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who helps us abide in Christ.

**Additional Readings:** John 11:38-44; Job 15:1-16; Ezekiel 40-41

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

### Read Mark 4:21-41

**TAI & PP:** Jot down your thoughts on the main point of each parable: A Lamp under a Basket:

The Seed Growing:

The Mustard Seed:

Why did Jesus calming the sea cause the disciples to be fearful? What kind of fear was it?

Pray for Pastors Dana and Jayson preaching on these parables and the miracle of calming the sea. Pray for the growth of Christ’s church around the world! The kingdom of God grows and grows! Hallelujah.