

FAITH BIBLE READING

Nov 5-11, 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 5

Read 2 Peter 2:17-22

TAI: Remember the context: False teachers and prophets. *“The false teachers are waterless springs (they promise refreshment and bring none) and mists driven by the wind (they sow confusion wherever they go), devoid of any inherent value. The gloom of utter darkness has been reserved for them...”* ESV SB. Do you struggle with the enticement of sensual passions? Do you see how such sins enslave people? Do you ever feel tempted to “turn back?” Ponder the true proverb that closes the paragraph.

PP: “Heavenly Father! Help me never to turn back from following Jesus. Thank you for delivering me from the enslavement of sin and now keep me in your grip. May I see false teaching and temptation for what it is and run from it. Let me not be fooled by waterless springs or mists driven by the wind. May I never return to wallow in the mire of sensual sins or corruption. I ask for your help! Fill me with the Holy Spirit. Help me remember your promises. And God, when I do sin, thank you for the cross and the shed blood of Christ, for without it I cannot be saved. What sweet grace. Amen.”

Tomorrow is election day. Pray “your will be done” and then vote.

Additional readings: John 8:21-30; Job 5; Ezekiel 16

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Read 2 Peter 3:1-9

TAI: What does Peter want to stir up? What does he want the reader to remember? Do you see evidence today of scoffers stirring up unbelief and sinful desires? How do the skeptics and scoffers create doubt about the promises of God? What do they overlook? What is God's perspective on time? How does it differ from our own? What can we learn from this?

PP: Ask God to stir up in you a godly, Christ-centered mind. Ask him to help you take all his promises to heart, banking on them for strong hope and joy in the midst of a troubled time. Ask the Father to protect you and those you love from skepticism concerning his promises and hope. Thank God for being patient, for every day that his coming delays gives opportunity for repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Pray for those in your sphere who need to know Jesus.

Additional readings: John 8:31-47; Job 6; Ezekiel 17-19

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Read 2 Peter 3:10-18

TAI: "God's judgment will not be delayed forever. When Christ returns it will be sudden, without warning, like the strike of a thief" ESV SB. It will be a moment of stunning celestial and cosmic change. So, how should we live day by day? How can we "hasten" the day of Christ's coming? What will happen after the great fire and melting? What should we diligently pursue in these "waiting" days? How does the Bible help us remain stable in our faith in these times? Ponder the great reality of vv. 17-18, and consider memorizing this truth.

PP: How do we pray for perseverance? Those last two verses are a great indicator! So, pray through those thoughts, concept by concept, asking to God help you discern the error of lawless people, remain stable in your faith, and grow in grace and the knowledge of Jesus. Commit to live your life for the glory of God from this day right up to the coming of Jesus Christ. What hinders you from this? Tell God.

Pray for all the officials of government elected yesterday.

Additional Readings: John 8:48-59; Job 7; Ezekiel 20-21

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Read 1 John 1:1-4

TAI: Who is being described in the opening phrases of I John? What do these phrases imply about Jesus? Note: they are full of profound truth. (An excellent Study Bible could be of great assistance.) What is John's goal for the reader of his letter? What would "complete" John's joy—what do you think he means by that? Do you enjoy fellowship with God the Father and his Son, Jesus? What hinders you from having even greater fellowship with God?

PP: Pray phrase by phrase through these opening verses, praising the Lord Jesus and delighting in the profound truth found here. Ask God to enrich your daily fellowship with him and with his only begotten Son, Jesus. Thank God that his Son was "manifest"—that is, that he came into the world (Merry Christmas!). Tell God that you want the greater joy of sharing the gospel of Christ with others.

Additional Readings: John 9:1-12; Job 8; Ezekiel 22-23

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Read 1 John 1:5-10

TAI: Jot down helpful thoughts in these two columns:

Light

Darkness

Many of us have memorized v. 9. If you haven't, do so now! What do we know for certain about anyone who claims they haven't sinned?

PP: Praise God, who is the Light, and has no darkness (evil) in him. Tell God that your great desire is to walk in the light, forsaking the darkness (sin and rebellion toward God). Rejoice that in Christ's blood your sins are forgiven! Thank God for genuine Christian fellowship. Confess to God any known sin in your life, and rejoice that God is "faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." What a glorious promise! What grace.

Additional Readings: John 9:13-25; Job 9:1-20; Ezekiel 24-26

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Read 1 John 2:1-11

TAI: Note the affection with which John writes to believers! His goal: no sin; his promise: when we do sin, we have an Advocate! What is *propitiation*? What is the clear evidence that we know Jesus? Who does John call a liar? What does *abiding in Christ* look like? How is the commandment both *old* and *new*? Ponder the relationship between love/hate/light/darkness. Do you struggle with feelings of hate toward anyone?

PP: Thank God that in Christ you are God's beloved child. Tell God that you desire not to sin. Thank God that in Christ you have an Advocate before the throne when you do sin. Rejoice in prayer that Christ has, by his shed blood on the cross, caused the wrath of God to bypass you! No condemnation through Jesus—Hallelujah! "O God, help me love and keep your commands through the power of the Holy Spirit. Help me walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Help me walk in love!" If you struggle with any hate, confess that to God in prayer.

Additional Readings: John 9:26-41; Job 9:21-35; Ezekiel 27-28

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Read Mark 4:1-20

TAI & PP: Here is a fun question: if you were called upon to preach this passage, the Parable of the Sower, how would you preach it? How would you break the passage down and explain its meaning? How would you explain the purpose of Jesus in using parables as expressed in vv. 10-12? Give this some thought; make your own outline. Then pray! Pray for the pastors preaching this famous passage today. Pray for the listeners also! Pray that our hearts would be eager and receptive soil for the gospel and truth. Pray for the children and youth as well as adults. Pray for the worship team and all who serve at our church today as well. To God be the glory!