

FAITH BIBLE READING

June 10-16, 2019

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. Select a quiet place and consistent time to read and pray.

Our plan for 2019 will be similar to previous years. 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.

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

MONDAY, JUNE 10

Read Ephesians 4:1-16

TAI: Paul was acutely aware of the cultural differences between the Jews and non-Jews, which could and did cause some discord in the early church. In this passage, he is urging unity among the body of Christ. Count the number of times he uses "unity" or "one" in this passage. From verses 2 and 3, what should our attitude be? From verses 13 and 14, if we allow our sinful natures to create discord and conflict, what does that say about our spiritual growth? From verses 15 and 16, what is key to our growth?

PP: Thank God that he does not exclude anyone based on their cultural heritage. Praise him for desiring one body and for the grace that is given each one (verse 7). Thank God for the leaders he has given Faith Baptist and ask him to equip them for building up the body. Ask God for spiritual gifts that will contribute to building unity and that he would clearly guide you in using those gifts. Ask for discernment so that we will not be deceived by false doctrine.

Additional readings: Luke 2:21-40; Psalm 119:49-56; 1 Kings 11

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

Read Ephesians 4:17-24

TAI: In general, Paul was writing the letter of Ephesians to "Gentiles", meaning non-Jews. In verses 17 and 18, Paul is referring specifically to non-Jews who deny Christ. Underline some of the words that Paul uses to describe such people. From verses 22-24, what actions are we to take? Who is the reason for taking these actions? Once we know the truth, it seems logical that we should no longer act like those who do not know the truth.

PP: Praise God for his righteousness and holiness. Thank God that he has taken action so that all of humanity has not been doomed to walk in darkness, and thank him for his desire to give us new hearts. If you have any doubt about whether God has given you a new heart, now is the time to put your trust in Jesus and ask God for that new heart. Pray for those around you (family, neighbors, co-workers, others) that God would lead them out of darkness. Ask God to guide you so that your new self is a witness to others, so that they would want to leave the darkness behind.

Additional readings: Luke 2:41-52; Psalm 119:57-64; 1 Kings 12

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

Read Ephesians 4:25-32

TAI: As long as we walk this earth, we will experience a variety of thoughts and emotions. The key question is, who will control those emotions (see verse 27)? We have been sealed by the Holy Spirit (verse 30), so we have the Spirit living inside us. How often today will you turn your thoughts, emotions, desires, and tongue over to the Holy Spirit to control? If we all did that, what would be the result?

PP: Praise God for his righteousness and holiness. Ask God for spiritual eyes to see those emotions, thoughts, and desires, that if acted upon would be contrary to living our new life in Christ. Ask for strength to say "No!" as needed so that what remains in our mind and heart is honoring to God. Ask God to help you be kind and forgiving.

Additional Readings: Luke 3:1-20; Psalm 119:65-72; 1 Kings 13-14

THURSDAY, JUNE 13

Read Ephesians 5:1-21

TAI: When people get together, there can be a tendency to go to the lowest line of thinking (crude jokes, etc). What does Paul say about such actions? If we are to avoid such actions, then are we to avoid talking with unbelievers? See Matthew 28:19-20. If a Christian group acts the same as a group of unbelievers, then why would the unbeliever want to change? What does the phrase "Christ will shine on you" mean to you?

PP: Give thanks to God that he desires to have us as children and thanks to Jesus for loving us so much that he became the perfect sacrifice. Ask God to help you control your thoughts and tongue so that only thanksgiving flows forth. Ask for help in walking as a child of light, in a way pleasing to God. Read verses 15-21 again to find any areas where you need to talk to God.

Additional Readings: Luke 3:21-38; Psalm 119:73-80; 1 Kings 15-16

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

Read Ephesians 5:22-33

TAI: In yesterday's passage, verse 21 said that we must submit to one another. Today, that is applied to marriage. Note how strongly husbands are to love their wives. The first comparison is to love as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. The second comparison, as detailed in verses 28-33, is to what? In return, the wife is to do what? In this mutual submission, the marriage is strengthened as each gets the thing they need the most, and God is glorified.

PP: If you are married, ask God to search your heart and your spouse's heart to reveal any barriers to submission to one another, and that he would break down those barriers. Ask God to be at work in the marriages at Faith Baptist and the marriages of other people as well, such that God would get the glory as those marriages are strengthened by submission to one another.

Additional Readings: Luke 4:1-12; Psalm 119:81-88; 1 Kings 17-18

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

Read Ephesians 6:1-9

TAI: From this passage, how old does a child have to be before they no longer have to obey their parents? How does that apply in your life? The focus of a parent should be on what? Do you know someone who only works hard when people are watching? If a Christian acts that way, how does that reflect on God? Who are we really working for? For the person in a supervisory position, who is their supervisor? How can a "boss" please God?

PP: Thank God that he desires to bring harmony into all areas of the family and even into the workplace. Ask God to show you how to honor your parents. Pray verse 4 for the parents of Faith Baptist. Ask God to show you how to apply yourself in the workplace as if working for the Lord (verse 7). If you are in a position of authority, ask God to show you how to serve those who report to you.

Additional Readings: Luke 4:13-30; Psalm 119:89-96; 1 Kings 19-20

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

Read Mark 14:12-31

TAI & PP: From Luke 22, we know that the two disciples that Jesus sent (verse 13) were Peter and John. Thus Peter had just personally witnessed Jesus prophesying the future (verse 16), yet when Jesus prophesied again in verse 27, what was Peter's reaction? If we cannot rely on ourselves, who can we trust? Ask that God would help you to cast all things upon him. Verse 15 suggests that God had prepared places for us to be at work preparing for his presence. Ask God to point you clearly to the place he has for you. Thank him that he desires to have you involved in building his family of faith.