



GOBIN CHURCH
A United Methodist Community for All

PRAY

God of the ages, I don't need to see you to know you are with me every moment of my life. Help me see you just enough to show you to others through the outpouring of my faith. Thank you. Amen

ACT

Think about what God looks like to you. See what words come to you.

Saturday, October 10

Mark 2:18-22 <https://tinyurl.com/ybd2w9jz>

PONDER

Jesus knew he wouldn't be with his followers for much longer. The feast was set and Jesus wanted his followers to experience the fullness of his presence. Clinging to old garments and old wineskins doesn't allow room for new opportunities and new ways of growing into the fullness of what Christ is offering to all. There will be a time to fast and a time to reflect. But the old ways must be put aside so that God's kingdom can come into fullness among God's chosen people. Christ is among us. Invite him to the table, eat and be satisfied.

PRAY

Renewing God, help me put away the old ways to make room for your Presence to fill me with new heart and hands and voice. Thank you. Amen.

ACT

Find something old in your life that is keeping you from growing, and toss it aside.

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS

Monday, October 5

1 Peter 2:4-10 <https://tinyurl.com/y7zy9yco>

PONDER

Building a spiritual house requires careful attention. We've all seen buildings where shortcuts were taken, floors weren't level, doors didn't close properly. The chosen builder wasn't paying attention. Jesus did pay attention, and wants us to be part of the household of God. Christian life doesn't exist in a vacuum. We are part of a larger community of builders, maturing into a royal priesthood. Stones – even the simple rocks we find, are testaments to God's love and faithfulness. We are called out of the darkness of our own self indulgence to be God's Light in the world. Grace and mercy are all around us.

PRAY

Holy God, help me be a living stone. Help me build your kingdom so that the Light of your Love shines in all places of struggle and goodness. Thank you. Amen.

ACT

Go for a walk and find a stone that speaks beauty to you. Place it in a spot where you will see it throughout the day. Imagine God using that stone to build a community of believers.

Tuesday, October 6

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

<https://tinyurl.com/yicsd9622>

PONDER

Becoming a new creation takes some work. It's hard to let go of old hurts, prejudices, jealousies and things of the world. New is not easy. But the freedom that results when we can let go of the old and embrace a new life in Christ is grace personified. God's love is with us as we reconcile ourselves to Christ, just as God reconciled us to himself through his gift of Jesus. This complete, unconditional, all-encompassing love is with us to support, grow and help us. When we become a new creation in Christ, we access all we are meant to be and more.

PRAY

God of possibilities and Presence, help me leave the old behind and embrace the power your Holy Spirit holds for my days. Thank you. Amen

ACT

Think of something you recently bought new. What kind of satisfaction does it hold for you? How different would your life be if you didn't have it?

Wednesday, October 7

Psalms 119:49-56

<https://tinyurl.com/y966z2bk>

PONDER

This wisdom psalm, an individual petition, is the longest psalm in the Bible. These verses talk about the comfort received by the writer because in his suffering and obeying of the law, the Lord remembers him. And the psalmist remembers the Lord. Where do we find comfort in our struggles, our suffering, our obedience? Trusting in God's promise of eternal life gives us strength to move ahead, sing, remember and obey. Remembering God's name all day long can get us through the struggles the world throws our way.

PRAY

God, help me to always remember to obey your laws, remember your ways and offer the comfort of your Presence to all I meet. Thank you. Amen.

ACT

Offer comfort to someone today.

Thursday, October 8

1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

<https://tinyurl.com/y9fjxe87>

PONDER

Stand fast in the true grace of God. Be eager to serve. Be humble. Be in Christ. Scripture is so rich in all the beauty that is a Christian life. This is our handbook – our trail guide for our walk along the path of life. The beauty of scripture is that it is timeless. The lessons of thousands of years ago guide us through the wilderness of a hurting and chaotic world. Peter's words, watch over your flock "not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be," is a guide to true discipleship. Embrace the life of caring for others – not because it's the right thing to do (because it is). Embrace the life of caring for others because your heart has answered the call to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. In this we will find peace.

PRAY

Faithful and loving God, keep my heart humble and my feet solidly grounded in Christ. Help me care for others from a place of deep love for all of God's children. Thank you. Amen.

ACT

Pay attention to your words and actions today. Are you humble and caring in your interactions with others?

Friday, October 9

Exodus 24:9-11

<https://tinyurl.com/yb87geuz>

PONDER

God didn't only show himself to Moses – the leaders of the Israelites saw God. These verses say God was standing on a pavement made of bright blue lapis lazuli, a stone used for jewelry by ancient Egyptians as far back as 3100 B.C. It is considered a stone of royalty. The finest lapis lazuli comes from the West Hindu Kush mountains of Afghanistan. To those who study stones, lapis lazuli is thought to connect to and invoke Divine inspiration. For the leaders of the Israelites to see God standing on bright blue lapis lazuli was Divine indeed. We read nothing about what God looked like – just what was under his feet. Was his countenance too bright to look upon? What were these elders and leaders eating and drinking? Did God provide that nourishment? Thinking of God in the physical is almost too wonderful to put into words. Imagine actually being in God's physical presence and trying to put it into words!