

Friday, November 6, 2020

Joshua 8:30-35 <https://tinyurl.com/y2lckxsl>

PONDER

Joshua read all that Moses had written in the Book of the Law to the people, including women, children and foreigners. God through Moses commanded the Israelites to build him an alter, and Joshua faithfully carried out that command. How do we demonstrate faithfulness to our call from God as we go about our lives? We can't hide the Light God puts in us –we can't hide it under a bushel basket! When we obey God's call for our lives, we find peace the world cannot give.

PRAY

Faithful Friend and Holy Redeemer, help me hear and follow your call for my life. Thank you. Amen

ACT

Look at one of your favorite recipes. How would the finished product turn out if you left out the key ingredient?

Saturday, November 7, 2020

Matthew 24:1-14 <https://tinyurl.com/yy6kwh7l>

PONDER

Jesus talked with the disciples about the end times in this passage. Watch out for those who deceive and beware of false prophets. The Truth of Jesus will be compromised and the faithful will be hated. This is happening today. People with power proclaim to be other than what they are. Lies overshadow Truth. Christians are persecuted, even to death. We don't know when our end will come, or when the world will end. Faithfulness in all things allows us to keep the wickedness of the world in check. Standing firm in the love of God through Christ Jesus will be our salvation.

PRAY

God, keep my mind and heart focused on the Truth you reveal to me through your Word and your Holy Presence surrounding me. Keep me strong when temptations knock. Help me shine your light through my actions. Thank you. Amen

ACT

Go to the website www.snopes.com and research whether something you heard in the news today is factual.



GOBIN CHURCH
A United Methodist Community for All

DAILY PRAYER MEDITATIONS

Monday, November 2, 2020

Psalms 128 <https://tinyurl.com/y59koeu2>

PONDER

We celebrate All Saints Day on November 1 or the first Sunday in November. This is a day we remember the saints of our congregation and the Church universal who have gone on to glory in the past year. We ring a bell each time a name is read aloud. Some years we write names of loved ones on a cloth that is then placed on the altar. Today's scripture passage is the one I randomly opened to in my Bible as I visited with a congregation member earlier this year. She has now gone on to glory, and I was able to share the verses of this psalm with family and loved ones at her funeral. We find comfort in the Book of Psalms, and these words were comfort to Delilah Adamson's children and her children's children. God directs our path, even in seemingly random acts, so that all we do in God's name creates a ripple of Grace.

PRAY

Holy God, thank you for all the saints who have nurtured us, loved us, taught us, cried with us and left a mark on our lives. May we honor their work as we continue to walk this earth. Thank you. Amen

ACT

Take out a nice piece of paper, cardstock, or a pretty cloth napkin and write the names of loved ones in your life who have died and gone on to glory. Remember and give thanks.

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Joshua 6:1-16, 20 <https://tinyurl.com/y54sboam>

PONDER

Joshua and the people are obedient to the Lord's command. As a result they were able to overtake Jericho without a fight. Recently I met with a group to pray for a young woman who had been diagnosed with a brain tumor. The night before her brain surgery, she said her faith was keeping her peaceful. She was obedient and trusted her life to the Lord. Her doctors saw the tumor on a scan prior to surgery, but when they went in they did not find a tumor – only residual tissue. Obedience to the Lord comes in all shapes and sizes and manifestations. Obedience to the Lord brings peace, effortless journeys through chaos and healing on all levels of our body, mind and spirit.

PRAY

Lord, help me find rest in obedience to your call of discipleship. Thank you. Amen

ACT

Think of a time when your obedience to the Lord has helped you. Tell someone.

Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Matthew 15:1-9 <https://tinyurl.com/yy9wgq6e>

PONDER

The Jewish ritual of hand washing is rooted in practices of rabbis in the ancient Temple in Jerusalem. The ritual removed impurities from gifts of oil, wine and wheat so they could be eaten by the priests. The ancient rabbis extended this practice to all Jews. Jesus is being challenged because his disciples aren't following a specific protocol for washing their hands. I'm guessing they washed their hands, but maybe not in an outward facing, public, specific way. As I began to read this passage, I thought of how timeless the Bible's teachings are! Signs are posted everywhere in public to wash hands and wear a mask. Some challenge these new human rules. These are human rules I'm going to follow because I care about other human beings.

At the same time, I'm going to follow God's rules to love and serve and John Wesley's rule of "Do no harm." Wearing a mask and washing my hands in a specific way – with soap, for 30 seconds, etc. – seems like a good thing!

PRAY

God, what do I need to hold on to and what do I need to change or stop? Show me your will and grant me your peace. Thank you. Amen

ACT

The next time you wash your hands, think of someone you may be protecting by this simple act.

Thursday, November 5, 2020

Psalms 78:1-7 <https://tinyurl.com/y2bp62yp>

PONDER

After bondage in Egypt, this Psalm speaks of a new beginning for the people of Israel. That new beginning involves knowing the past, praising God and keeping God's commandments. "Hear my teachings" is not just a phrase for the people of Israel. It's timeless. God is still speaking to us today in scripture and through people in our lives. We are called to share stories of how God is working in our lives so that others can learn to put their trust in God, know God's deeds and be faithful followers. When we tell our stories, we are sharing scripture for those who follow.

PRAY

God, thank you for the stories of your faithfulness passed down through the ages. My foundation is strong when I put my trust in you. Thank you. Amen

ACT

Tell someone one thing God has done in your life.