

#### WEEK 33 NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 6





## Using the Bible Reading Plan

The mark of a growing disciple is the discipline to self-feed. During this unprecedented time, the Lord is redirecting His people to pause and rediscover Him and His ways afresh. This is the heart behind our Bible Reading Plan - that we, as a church will delight the Father when we are growing in our love for Him and allowing His Spirit to move us in obeying His Word in our lives.

The Bible Reading Plan comprises a daily passage with reflection questions to guide you in meditation. You can also journal what God's Spirit is prompting you to do in applying the Word. We pray that as you carve out unhurried time to encounter God, you will revitalise your spiritual life and encourage others to experience likewise!



In order to fully utilise the features within this Reading Plan, open this document using Adobe Acrobat Reader. (https://acrobat.adobe.com/sea/en/mobile/acrobat-reader.html)



This Week's Focus

We continue reflecting on the life and example of Christ. This week's journey takes us from Capernaum, to the sea of Galilee and all the way to the Mount of Olives where He preached the Sermon on the Mount. Can you imagine sitting there at the mount of olives hearing Him speak or being there in the boat when He commanded the storm to cease or when he healed the paralytic man? As you journey through these narratives, may the Lord grant you fresh insights and revelation of your Messiah – Christ the King.

# November 30

"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." - **Mark 2:17** (NIV)



Today's Meditation

Mark 2 (Read)

Reflection Questions

What qualities about godly friends can we learn from what these men did for the paralytic (v 3-5)? Do you have friends like them in your life? Are you this kind of friend towards others? Jesus' power and authority demanded a response, but sometimes it is difficult for us to respond in faith due to our fear or pride. Is there an area in your life where you struggle to trust Jesus' power and authority?

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.

### December 1 TUESDAY



"And looking about at those who sat around Him, He said, 'Here are My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother."" - Mark 3:34-35 (ESV)

Today's Meditation

Mark 3 (Read)

Reflection Questions

In verse 5, Jesus says to the man with the withered hand: "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. Recall a moment in your life when God did the impossible for you. Jesus chose as His apostles both Simon the Zealot, a political extremist, and Matthew the tax collector, a "traitor" working for the Roman government (v 16-19). How has Jesus changed your attitude towards people with whom you previously would not have associated with?

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.

### December 2 WEDNESDAY

"Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" - Mark 4:40 (ESV)



Today's Meditation

Mark 4 (<u>Read</u>)

Reflection Questions

Meditate on verse 40 for a while. What does it mean to have faith in that situation (the storm)?

7

Identify situations in your life where you are tempted to respond with fear rather than faith? As you go to the Lord in prayer, consider how you will react when you face those situations again.

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.

#### December 3 THURSDAY

"Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." - **Matthew 5:12 (NIV)** 



Today's Meditation

Matthew 5 (<u>Read</u>)

Keflection Questions

Why would Jesus begin the beatitudes with "Blessed are the poor in spirit"? How does it connect with the rest of the beatitudes? What did Jesus mean when He said, "I have not come to abolish the Law or the Prophets... but to fulfil them" (v17)?

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.

# December 4 FRIDAY



"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full." - **Matthew 6:5 (NIV)** 

Today's Meditation

Matthew 6 (Read)

Keflection Questions

Taking reference from verse 5, in what ways can Christians be hypocritical today?

Why does Jesus tell us not to be anxious about our lives? (vv 25-34) How does Jesus' words in these verses strengthen your faith in Him?

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.

# December 5 **SATURDAY**

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." - **Matthew 7:7** (NIV)



Today's Meditation

Matthew 7 (<u>Read</u>)

Keflection Questions

Why does Jesus say we should not judge (v 1)? Is there ever a time when it is okay to judge? (Refer also to *Judge Not*? in <u>Additional</u> <u>Resources</u>)

In verses 24-25, what does it mean to build one's life on the rock? How can you consistently build your life on the rock?

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.

# December 6 **SUNDAY**



"With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." - **Mark 10:27 (ESV)** 

Today's Meditation

Mark 10:1-29 (<u>Read</u>)

Reflection Questions

Why did Jesus say, "for to such (children) belongs the kingdom of heaven"? (v 14)

What makes it difficult for a wealthy man to enter the kingdom of God? (v 23)

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.



Additional Resources

Article: 3 Things You Didn't Know About the Sermon on the Mount by Jonathan Pennington

(https://rlc.sg/3o9MvNT)

Article: Judge Not? by Jon Bloom (https://rlc.sg/39oe2GU)

Article: True Friends Are Hard to Find by Kelly Needham (https://rlc.sg/2JniESI)

Article: What is Growing in Faith? by Compelling Truth (https://rlc.sg/36bZCI1)

Video: Land of the Bible: The Sea of Galilee by Pete Sumrall & Yari Amichay (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Ndkl3q1gIA)

#### Video: Where did Jesus deliver his Sermon on the Mount? by Drive Thru History

(<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsPwlqJxq\_E</u>)

#### Song: Messiah by Francesca Battistelli (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D14wX0K9XJQ)

Song: Jesus Messiah by Chris Tomlin (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tdxSC1tHJn0)



(C) 2020 RiverLife Church. All Rights Reserved. For Internal Distribution Only.