

#### **WEEK 20** AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 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. (<u>https://acrobat.adobe.com/sea/en/mobile/acrobat-reader.html</u>)



### This Week's Focus

We begin our reading of 1 Peter in tandem with our new pulpit series. Each Sunday, we will read the Scriptures expounded during the sermon. Throughout the week, this is followed by examining other passages related to the topic preached on Sunday. In this week's reading, we will examine the theme of discipleship – what it all means to be born into this living hope that we have.

# August 31



"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves..." - Matthew 10:16 (ESV)

Today's Meditation

Matthew 10:16–25 (Read)

Keflection Questions

Matthew 10 describes the commissioning of the 12 disciples. In this passage, Jesus warns them to expect persecution. Why should the disciples expect persecution?

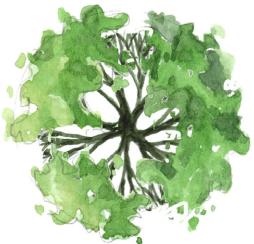
"Christians in Singapore hardly experience any persecution as compared with those in some other countries." Why is that so? How can we encourage and support fellow believers who face persecution in other countries?

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

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

#### September 1 TUESDAY

"Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me..." - Matthew 11:29 (ESV)



Today's Meditation

Matthew 11:25–30 (Read)

Reflection Questions

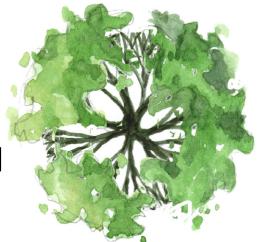
What does it mean to "take the yoke of Christ"?

One of the results of being yoked with Christ is "gentleness and lowly in heart". Identify as many instances as possible in your life when you can be more "gentle" and "lowly in heart"?

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#### September 2 WEDNESDAY



"For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother." - Mark 3:35 (ESV)

Today's Meditation

Mark 3:20–35 (<u>Read</u>)

Reflection Questions

An individual who is in the family of God is one who does God's will. What is God's will? (see <u>Matthew 7:21</u>, <u>1 Thessalonians 4:1-</u> 12, <u>5:18</u>, <u>Matthew 25:31-46</u>)

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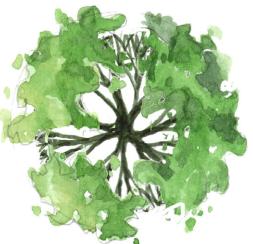
Which aspect of God's will do you fall short? How can you step up in this area?

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#### September 3 THURSDAY

"For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words... the Son of Man also be ashamed when He comes..." - **Mark 8:38 (ESV)** 



Today's Meditation

Mark 8:34–38 (<u>Read</u>)

Reflection Questions

Verse 34 describes a disciple as one who "deny himself", "take up his cross", and "follow Me"? What would each of these phrases practically mean for you?

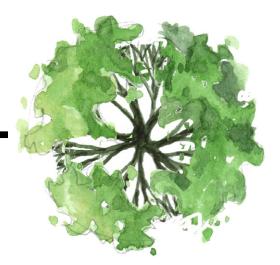
Have there been occasions when you found youself "ashamed of Christ and His words" in this world? How can you demonstrate otherwise?

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#### September 4 FRIDAY

"You lack one thing..." - Mark 10:21 (ESV)



Today's Meditation

Mark 10:17–31 (<u>Read</u>)

Reflection Questions

According to this passage, why is it difficult (though not impossible) for the wealthy to enter the kingdom of God?

In the light of this passage, what is the purpose of a disciple's wealth? Examine your life - are you holding too tightly to your resources? Are you caring for the poor and needy in society? If not, what are some first steps which you can take?

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## September 5 **SATURDAY**

"Follow Me..." - Luke 9:59 (ESV)



Today's Meditation

Luke 9:57–62 (<u>Read</u>)

Reflection Questions

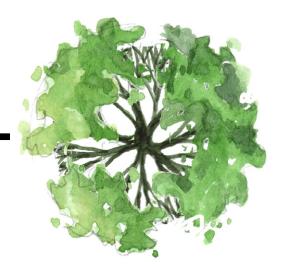
Jesus's standard of a disciple is a high one (verse 62). What does it mean to "put one's hand into the plow and look back"? Why do you think this person is not fit for the kingdom of God? Jesus spells out clearly to all who want to follow Him – it is going to be a tough journey involving much sacrifice. What are some dreams / goals / wants you have in your life which you are still struggling to lay at the foot of the cross?

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## September 6 **SUNDAY**

"You shall be holy, for I am holy." - 1 Peter 1:16 (ESV)



Today's Meditation

1 Peter 1:13-25 (<u>Read</u>)

Reflection Questions

What does it mean to be "holy"? (see 2 Corinthians 6:3-10, 14-18)

How do you "conduct yourself with fear" in your daily life (v 17b)?

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Additional Resources

Article: 10 Things You Should Know About Blasphemy of The Holy Spirit by Sam Storms (<u>https://rlc.sg/2DanaBu</u>)

> Article: What Is a Disciple by Anthony Carter, Tabletalk (<u>https://rlc.sg/3hOmaSo</u>)

Article: 7 Traits of a Disciple by Chad Damitz, Conform to Jesus (<u>https://rlc.sg/2G73olc</u>)

Video: Overview of 1 Peter by Bible Project (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WhP7AZOlzCg</u>)

Song: Take My Life And Let It Be ('Till Every Moment) by Kari Jobe & Klaus (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZGxTJQqb1q0</u>)

Song: Be Thou My Vision by Corrinne May (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k1I0IB7glhE</u>)



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