#### January 1st: Matthew 1

#### Re-read Matthew 1:22-23

Question: Matthew 1 details the lineage from Abraham all the way to Jesus. This is followed by the miraculous birth of Jesus as prophesied in Isaiah 7:14. He is given the title "Immanuel" which means "God with us". Why is the birth of Jesus so amazing? What does this teach us about who Jesus is? Why should you be thankful for the birth of Jesus?

# January 2<sup>nd</sup>: Matthew 2

#### Re-read Matthew 2:13

Question: Herod didn't like the idea of someone else being king, so he came up with an evil plan. However, God sends an angel to warn Joseph and keep Jesus safe from Herod's wicked plan. What was Herod's evil plan? Why did Herod want to cause harm to Jesus? How can you worship Jesus like the wise men did?

### January 3rd: Matthew 3

#### Re-read Matthew 3:11

Question: John the Baptist urged people (specifically here the Pharisees and Sadducees) to repent of their sin and pointed them to Jesus. John is Jesus' cousin and yet he speaks of him highly! Jesus validates John's message by being baptized by him (even though he NEVER sinned)! Why does John the Baptist talk about Jesus in this way? Do you talk about Jesus with your friends? How can you talk about Jesus in a way that honors him?

#### January 4th: Matthew 4

#### Re-read Matthew 4:10

Question: Jesus responded to Satan's temptations by rightly quoting back Scripture. He then starts his preaching and miracles and gets 12 men to come with him (we call them the "apostles" or "disciples"). How does knowing the Bible help us fight temptation? What is a temptation that you face? What is a verse you can memorize to fight that temptation?

# January 5th: Matthew 5:1-26

#### Re-read Matthew 5:21-22

Question: In Matthew 5-7 Jesus preaches a long sermon called the "Sermon on the Mount". Jesus helps the people rightly understand the extent of sin when he says, "you have heard that it was said". Jesus shows them the seriousness of sinful anger and the different ways that same sin is acted out — murder, insults, bitter words, etc. Why does Jesus take sin so seriously? What causes you to be angry? How can you "keep cool" when tempted to be angry?

#### January 6<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 5:27-48

#### Re-read Matthew 5:29-30

Question: Jesus continues to show the extent of sin in different areas when talking about lust, divorce, promises, revenge, and dealing with enemies. In verses 29-30 he shows how serious we should take sin. Jesus is not saying that we should be actually cutting off our hands or plucking out our eyes, but that we should deal with sin SERIOUSLY! We need to take big steps to put things in place to fight temptations! What does verse 30 say is the consequence for those who keep living in their sin? What is a sin that you face regularly? What BIG STEP can you take to fight that sin?

# January 7th: Matthew 6

#### Re-read Matthew 6:19-21

Question: Jesus says not to be so consumed about trying to become super wealthy or to gain a bunch of things on earth, but to focus on what matter for eternity. If your heart loves this world more than God, then that is where your focus will be. What reason does Jesus give for caring more about treasures in heaven rather than earth? Does how you spend your time show that you value God or this world more? How can you better spend your time to glorify God?

# January 8th: Matthew 7

#### Re-read Matthew 7:12

Question: Jesus summarizes the entire Old Testament ("the Law and the Prophets") when he says to treat others how we want to be treated. How do you want to be treated? Are you treating others in that way? How can you treat your parents as Jesus would want you to?

#### January 9th: Matthew 8

#### Re-read Matthew 8:19-22

Question: In Matthew 8 we see Jesus perform lots of miracles which led to big crowds being around him. However, Jesus knew the hearts of the people and how some were not willing to follow him at any cost. True followers of Jesus will listen and obey what he says even when it is costly. What are some reasons why people don't follow Jesus? When is it hard for you to obey Jesus? How can you obey better even when it is hard?

# January 10<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 9:1-17

#### Re-read Matthew 9:6-7

Question: The scribes were not happy that Jesus forgave the paralytic's sins because it was claiming that Jesus is God. However, Jesus verifies that he is God and has the authority to forgive sins by making the paralytic able to walk. Why is being forgiven by Jesus more important than being made able to walk? What does it mean to be forgiven by God? Have you been forgiven by God?

#### January 11th: Matthew 9:18-38

#### Re-read Matthew 9:35-36

Question: Jesus had a genuine care and concern for other people. He wanted others to not only be healed physically but to rightly respond to the gospel message. Do you care about other people like Jesus does? Do you want others to hear the gospel? Who will you invite to church this week?

# January 12th: Matthew 10:1-23

#### Re-read Matthew 10:16

Question: Jesus sent out the disciples to different towns and gave them special authority to do certain miracles to validate the message that they were proclaiming. He also warns the disciples that hard times will come to them for spreading Christ's message. However, he offers hope in verse 22 in saying that that true Christians (those that endure) will be saved. Why is it sometimes difficult to stand up for Christ? How can you be wise in how you stand up for Christ?

# January 13th: Matthew 10:24-42

#### Re-read Matthew 10:28

Question: Jesus tells the disciples not to fear man but to rather fear God. Man can harm the body, but God is in charge of our bodies and our souls. Why should we fear God over man? Are you concerned about what people think of you? How can you care more about what God wants you to do rather than people?

## January 14th: Matthew 11

Re-read Matthew 11:28-30

Question: The religious leaders loved to put burdens on people by giving strict rules they were not able to keep perfectly. Jesus came and offered forgiveness as the solution to our sin problem. What does it mean to be forgiven? What is the right response to being forgiven?

# January 15th: Matthew 12:1-21

Re-read Matthew 12:18

Question: This is a quote from Isaiah 42 talking about how Jesus came not only to bring justice to the Jews but also the Gentiles (the rest of the world). This is something that was predicted hundreds of years before this took place and yet it happened. How is it comforting to know God has a plan? What does this teach you about God himself?

# January 16th: Matthew 12:22-50

Re-read Matthew 12:36-37

Question: Jesus gives a warning about the words we don't think about very much. We will be held accountable for every single word that we say. How do you use your words? Would God be pleased with what you said this past week? How can you be more careful with your words?

# January 17th: Matthew 13:1-32

Re-read Matthew 13:23

Question: The parable of the sower shows how people respond differently to God's Word. The true Christian (soil #4) receives the Bible, understands what it says, and then obeys it. What are some wrong responses to the Bible? What is the right response? How can you better obey the Bible?

## January 18th: Matthew 13:33-58

Re-read Matthew 13:45-46

Question: Jesus gives a short parable about a valuable pearl that represents salvation. Being saved is so valuable that we should be willing to give up everything for it. Idolatry is valuing something else above God which is wrong. Why is it so valuable to be right with God? What do you value in your life the most? What are some idols in your life?

# January 19<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 14:1-21

#### Re-read Matthew 14:14

Question: It was the compassion of Jesus that lead him to do many miracles even though he was saddened by the death of John the Baptist. Jesus had deep sympathy, mercy, and concern for the people because as Matthew 9:36 says, "they were like sheep without a shepherd." Jesus wanted the people to come to him as the bread of life who is not only able to fill their stomach, but who is the answer to their sin problem. How does compassion lead to action? How can you show compassion to your friends?

#### January 20th: Matthew 14:22-36

Re-read Matthew 14:31

Question: Jesus does the amazing miracle of walking on water and allows Peter to do the same until he starts to doubt him! Jesus calls for us to trust him and not to doubt! When is it difficult for you to trust God? Why are those times difficult? How can you grow in trusting God more?

#### January 21st: Matthew 15:1-20

Re-read Matthew 15:8-9

Question: Jesus quotes Isaiah 29 when he calls the Pharisees out for appearing to honor God outwardly but really having evil hearts and motives. We can seem to do many good things, but it could all be meaningless if we don't do it genuinely for God with a right heart. What are some wrong reasons (motives) people do good things? What are some good things you can do today for the right reason?

#### <u>January 22<sup>nd</sup>:</u> Matthew 15:21-39

#### Re-read Matthew 15:25-28

Question: Jesus at first doesn't seem like he wants to help this woman because of his focus on the people of Israel. However, this woman's persistence shows the genuiness of her faith and how she trusted Jesus could fix her problem. She demonstrates humility in recognizing her problem and going to Jesus as the solution. How did this woman show humility? How can you show humility towards God? How about toward your family and friends?

# January 23rd: Matthew 16

Re-read Matthew 16:15-16

Question: Jesus asks the disciples who people say that he is, and he gets mixed answers. Then he turns the question on them and asks them who they think he is. Peter answers rightly that Jesus is the Christ (the Messiah or Savior talked about in the Old Testament) the Son of God. Why is it hard for people to accept that Jesus is the Son of God? Why do you think that Jesus is the Son of God?

#### January 24th: Matthew 17

Re-read Matthew 17:22-23

Question: Jesus once again very bluntly tells his disciples about his future death and resurrection. We see a new response by the disciples of not fighting it but one of extreme sadness. Why is Jesus' death so sad? At the same time, why should we be thankful for Christ's death and resurrection?

# January 25<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 18:1-20

#### Re-read Matthew 18:8-9

Question: Jesus uses hyperbole to show how serious sin is! While he is not actually telling people to cut off their foot or pluck out their eye; he is telling them to take drastic measures when it comes to sin. They need to take big steps cut off temptations to sin in their life. Do you view sin as seriously as Jesus does? What are some temptations in your life? How can you take steps to cut off that temptation?

# January 26<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 18:21-35

Re-read Matthew 18:21-22

Question: Jesus in saying to forgive seventy-seven times is not saying to keep track until seventy-seven, but rather that we need to keep on forgiving others when we've been wronged. He then gives a parable that shows that if we have been forgiven by God for so much, then we should be willing to forgive whatever wrongs people do to us. Why is it hard to forgive people? Who do you need to forgive?

#### January 27th: Matthew 19:1-15

Re-read Matthew 19:13-14

Question: Jesus encounters some children and makes the point how being right with God is like being a child. Children are dependent upon their parents for everything. Similarly, to be right with God we must realize that we depend on God for everything! What should you to trust God for? How can you show you depend on God?

January 28th: Matthew 19:16-30

Re-read Matthew 19:21-22

Question: The rich man thought he could get into heaven because he said he kept all the commandments (even though he had not). Jesus goes on to expose that money and possessions were the real god in his life. Jesus follows that by telling his disciples about the tremendous heavenly rewards given to those who follow him. Why should having lots of money and possessions not be our focus in life? Do you focus more on "stuff" in this world or obeying God? How can you better focus on obeying God?

January 29th: Matthew 20:1-16

Re-read Matthew 20:14-16

Question: Jesus tells a parable to make a comparison about God's kingdom. Some of the workers who worked for a longer time were complaining that they got paid the same amount as the workers who started later even though their payment was fair. Jesus uses this parable to show that salvation is not a result of doing more works than someone else but is by God's grace and generosity. Why was it bad for the workers to grumble against the master? What do you complain about? How can you be more thankful for God's grace and generosity?

January 30th: Matthew 20:17-34

Re-read Matthew 20:26-28

Question: James and John were concerned with status and being great in God's kingdom. However, being great for God is not like being great in the world. A "great person" in Gods eyes is a person who serves others. How did Christ set the example for us in serving others? How can you better serve your parents today?

## January 31st: Matthew 21:1-22

Re-read Matthew 21:9

Question: Many people thought Jesus was coming to save them by taking over politically and overthrowing the Roman Empire. What they missed was that Jesus came to solve a bigger issue - to save them from their sin. Why is our sin problem the most important issue to solve? What solution did Jesus provide? Have you repented and put your trust in what Christ has done?

# February 1st: Matthew 21:23-46

Re-read Matthew 21:42

Question: A cornerstone was the stone in the bottom corner of a house and was the foundation that everything else was built on. Jesus tells the parable showing how the prophets and now the Son (Jesus) has been rejected and those who do so will be accountable for that. Christ through his death and resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith. Why was Christ opposed by many people? Do you reject Christ? Do you listen and obey what he says?

#### February 2<sup>nd</sup>: Matthew 22:1-22

Re-read Matthew 22:12-14

Question: The gospel call goes out to many people but only a few respond rightly and put their faith in Christ. In order to be welcomed in we need the "wedding garments" which is Christ's righteousness and not our own. Why was this man not allowed into the wedding feast? What are the consequences of not putting your trust in Christ?

# February 3<sup>rd</sup>: Matthew 22:23-46

Re-read Matthew 22:37-39

Question: Jesus quotes Deuteronomy 6:5 in his summarization of the Old Testament law in his command to love God and love others. Genuine love is shown not just through our words but through our actions. Are you loving God well? Are you loving others well? Would your actions back that up?

# February 4th: Matthew 23:1-22

Re-read Matthew 23:11-12

Question: The religious leaders loved to be the center of attention and praised by other people! Their greatest sin was pride. We need to be the opposite of that which is humble. What does it mean to be humble? When you interact with people how can you be humble instead of prideful? (at home, school, sports teams, etc.)

# February 5<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 23:23-39

Re-read Matthew 23:28

Question: Jesus calls out the Pharisees again, but this time it is for hypocrisy (acting "good" on the outside, but really being evil inside). Are you guilty of acting one way at church and another way at school? Or acting one way at home and another way at school? This is what Jesus is talking about! Check yourself today and make sure you are not living as a hypocrite!

#### February 6<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 24:1-22

#### Re-read Matthew 24:13

Question: In the end times there will be people claiming to be the Messiah along with wars, hostility, betrayal, and many evil things. However, verse 13 reminds the true Christians that they will endure to the end and be saved! What does it mean to "endure to the end"? Why is it sometimes difficult to do what is right? How can you stand up for what is right at school?

# February 7<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 24:23-51

Re-read Matthew 24:44

Question: A common theme found in today's DBR is to be ready and prepared for when Christ returns! No one knows when that will happen because he could come at any time. How does that make you want to live? Would you want him to see you sinning or keeping his commandments?

# February 8th: Matthew 25:1-30

Re-read Matthew 25:21

Question: God has given us different things that he expects us to use wisely for him. Those who do so are rewarded while those who do not are punished for it. What are some things God has given you? How have you used them? How can you better use what you have for God?

# February 9th: Matthew 25:31-46

#### Re-read Matthew 25:44-45

Question: One day everyone will be separated into two groups. One group are those who are right with God and the other group are those who are not. Those who are right with God show their faith by loving others while the unbelievers do not! How does a person become right with God? Are you right with God?

# February 10th: Matthew 26:1-19

Re-read Matthew 26:10-11

Question: A woman comes up to Jesus and pours a valuable ointment on him. The disciples get upset because it could have been sold for lots of money and given to the poor. Jesus, however, calls out his disciples because this woman was serving and loving him in this once in a lifetime opportunity. Is Jesus saying that giving money to the poor is bad? Why was this "waste of oil" good? How can you show love to Jesus today?

#### February 11<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 26:20-54

Re-read Matthew 26:39

Question: Jesus knows what he is about to go through, and he pleads to God the Father to not have this happen if it is possible. However, he submits himself to the Father's will when he adds "not as I will, but as you will". What is something hard that God tells us to do? How can you obey God no matter what he asks you to do?

# February 12<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 26:55-75

Re-read Matthew 26:74-75

Question: We see Peter give in to the temptation of denying Christ three times after he had earlier said he would never deny Christ! Is it hard for you to stand up for Jesus in school, on your sports team, or with your friends? How can you stand up for Jesus in these situations?

# February 13th: Matthew 27:1-31

Re-read Matthew 27:28-29

Question: People struck, spit on, and mocked Jesus even though he had done nothing wrong. However, Jesus never once reciprocated by complaining or saying mean things back to those who were harming him. Do you say mean things to others? How can you hold back mean words and actions toward your family, friends, or kids at school?

# February 14th: Matthew 27:32-66

Re-read Matthew 27:51-54.

Question: There were some miraculous things that happened when Jesus died! It caused some people to realize that Jesus was who he said he was! Who is Jesus? How does knowing who Jesus is impact how you live?

# February 15<sup>th</sup>: Matthew 28

Re-read Matthew 28:6-7

Question: JESUS IS RISEN!! The tomb is empty, and an angel tells the Mary's to go and tell the disciples that Jesus has risen from the dead! The right response to the resurrection of Jesus is by telling other people about it! Why is Jesus' resurrection so important? Who do you need to tell about Jesus?

# February 16<sup>th</sup>: Mark 1:1-22

Re-read Mark 1:17-18

Question: When Jesus told Simon and Andrew to follow him, they listened and obeyed IMMEDIATELY. How quick are you to do what Jesus says? What keeps you from obeying immediately? How can you obey God better than you normally do?

# February 17th: Mark 1:23-45

Re-read Mark 1:24

Question: It is interesting that even demons and unclean spirits recognize that Jesus is God and they are afraid. However, this belief does not save the demons and is different from true Christian belief. What is the difference between this belief and true trust in Christ? Why do we need to trust in Christ?

# February 18th: Mark 2

Re-read Mark 2:17

Question: If you have a physical problem, you need to recognize the problem and go to a doctor for the solution! We all have a problem and that is our sin. It creates separation between us and God. However, not many people want to accept they have a problem with God. It is only those who come to Jesus as the answer to their problem that are saved! What does it mean that we all have a sin problem? How does Jesus fix that problem?

#### February 19<sup>th</sup>: Mark 3:1-21

Re-read Mark 3:21

Question: Jesus' family thought that he was crazy at first! There are lots of people who think that Jesus was crazy, a liar, or just a good teacher but the miracles that he does verifies that he is God! What are some things that you hear people say about Jesus? Why do people not believe Jesus is God? Why can you trust that Jesus is God?

#### February 20th: Mark 3:22-35

Re-read Mark 3:35

Question: At first glance it might look like Jesus is disrespecting his family but that is not the case! He is making the point that those who do what God says have such a close relationship with him that they are like family. Do you obey what God commands in the Bible? What does God want you to do today?

## February 21st: Mark 4:1-20

#### Re-read Mark 4:15

Question: The four different soils are four different responses to Gods Word. This first soil represents people who have hard hearts toward the Bible and don't obey what it says. What is your reaction to the Bible? Do you listen/read it but then not obey it? How can you respond more like the fourth soil?

#### February 22<sup>nd</sup>: Mark 4:21-41

Re-read Mark 4:40-41

Question: The disciples lacked faith in Jesus to keep them safe during the storm. They didn't trust Jesus and it showed during this time when things seemed scary. We need to trust God at at all times because he is in control of all things. What are some things you worry about? How can you trust God in those things?

#### February 23rd: Mark 5:1-20

Re-read Mark 5:19-20

Question: Jesus just freed a man from demons and sent them into a herd of pigs. Then, he commanded the man to go and tell people all that Jesus did for him! Mark says he went to the Decapolis (an area of 10 cities) and told people all about what Jesus did for him! What has Jesus done for you? Will you tell people about it today?

February 24th: Mark 5:21-43

Re-read Mark 5:41-42

Question: We read in today's DBR of Jesus preforming two amazing miracles! They demonstrate the power that He has and that He is God. Why is Jesus able to do these miracles? Do you really believe that Jesus is God? Why can we trust the biblical account about Jesus?

February 25<sup>th</sup>: Mark 6:1-32

Re-read Mark 6:17-18

Question: John the Baptist was calling out sin in the lives of Herod and Herodias. This caused Herodias to not like John and for her daughter to ask for the death of John the Baptist. When others call out our sin, we must not be stubborn but quick to repent. What sin do you see in your life? Spend some time repenting to God for that sin! How are you going to turn away from that moving forward?

February 26th: Mark 6:33-56

Re-read Mark 6:49-50

Question: The disciples saw Jesus walking across the water, but thought it was a ghost. They were so shocked that they were scared of what they were seeing. Jesus tells them not to be afraid because he is there. This is an important truth that if we belong to God then we don't have to be afraid even in scary situations. Why can Christians not be afraid even when times are scary? Why can you trust God in all situations?

# February 27<sup>th</sup>: Mark 7:1-13

Re-read Mark 7:6

Question: Jesus exposes the hypocrisy of the Pharisees again. They try to act holy, but Jesus knows their hearts do not love the Lord. They were saying that they loved God, but they did not really mean it. Why does Jesus hate hypocrisy? How can you focus on loving God when you obey him?

#### February 28th: Mark 7:14-8:10

Re-read Mark 7:21-22

Question: Most people think they are good! Jesus makes the point that we are not good but are sinful and need to be saved! Where do you hear the world talk about us being good? How does Jesus combat that?

# March 1<sup>st</sup>: Mark 8:11-38

Re-read Mark 8:33

Question: Peter doesn't understand why Jesus has to go through pain, suffering, and death. He knows Jesus is the Messiah but doesn't like what Jesus is saying he will go through. Jesus rebukes Peter because it is through the suffering and death that Jesus endures that we can be saved! Why was what Peter was doing wrong? Why did Jesus have to suffer and die on the cross? How can you be more thankful for that incredible sacrifice?

March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mark 9:1-29

Re-read Mark 9:2-3

Question: Jesus took Peter, James, and John up on a mountain and did something amazing! He showed them his heavenly glory! He shone like a light! Jesus really is God! How do you think about Jesus? Do you picture him in a manger, or do you picture him in his full glory? How can you think of Jesus more highly than you do now?

March 3<sup>rd</sup>: Mark 9:30-50

Re-read Mark 9:42

Question: In the last section of today's DBR we see Jesus discuss the seriousness of sin. He says it is better for someone to have a huge stone around their neck and tossed into the ocean rather than cause another to sin! In what ways do you cause others to sin? How will you influence your friends at school to do and talk about good things rather than sin?

March 4<sup>th</sup>: Mark 10:1-32

Re-read Mark 10:21-22

Question: The young man had a lot to give up for Jesus, and he went away sad because he was not willing to give it up. What are the things you like to do/people you like to hang out with that you know God doesn't like? Are YOU willing to give those things up to serve God better?

March 5<sup>th</sup>: Mark 10:32-52

Re-read Mark 10:45

Question: If we want to be great in Gods kingdom, we need to be willing to serve other people. We need to copy the example of Jesus in giving of ourselves for the sake of others. How can you serve your parents today? How can you give of your time and energy to sacrifice for them today?

#### March 6<sup>th</sup>: Mark 11:1-19

Re-read Mark 11:17

Question: Jesus was rightfully angry because they turned the temple into "a market" and would rip people off and steal from them. Jesus demonstrated righteous anger which is anger over sin. It is not getting angry at a person but the sin that is being committed. However, when we get angry it is not usually over sin but over something that doesn't go our way. We need to be slow to anger. Where do you see sinful anger in your life? How can you be slow to anger toward your siblings? How can you be quick to pray when you are tempted to be angry?

#### March 7th: Mark 11:20-33

Re-read Mark 11:24

Question: In this set of verses Jesus gives direction about prayer. In verse 24 we are told to ask confidently when we pray. This does not mean that we will get everything we ask for, but it does mean we go to God and ask him to do big things. What sort of things do you pray for? Are your prayers focused on what you want or what God wants? What are some BIG godly things you can start praying for?

March 8th: Mark 12:1-27

Re-read Mark 12:7-9

Question: Jesus gives this parable about these tenants who treat these servants sent by the master very awfully and they even kill the master's son. The point is in showing how badly Israel treated the prophets that God sent, and they will kill the Son (Jesus) as well. God will rightly give out punishment for those who mistreat Jesus. How do you talk about/treat Jesus? Do you let other people at school talk about him in a bad way? How can you positively talk about Jesus with people at school?

March 9<sup>th</sup>: Mark 12:28-44

Re-read Mark 12:30-31

Question: Jesus sums up all of the 10 commandments in giving the greatest commandments. One way to say it is that we need to love God and love others. How are you loving God and others? How can you love God better? How can you love your parents better?

March 10<sup>th</sup>: Mark 13:1-13

Re-read Mark 13:11

Question: The world will not be nice to followers of Jesus. However, we are not to be afraid but are to stand firm to the Bible and obey what it says. Have you ever been made fun of for obeying the Bible? What was your response? How can you live for God no matter what people say?

March 11<sup>th</sup>: Mark 13:14-37

Re-read Mark 13:31

Question: Today we read about the end times and the judgement of the world. We can trust God's Word and that everything that it says will take place. Do you believe what the Bible says? Why can you trust it? How can you show that you believe it?

March 12<sup>th</sup>: Mark 14:1-25

Re-read Mark 14:1

Question: There were many people who hated Jesus. Jesus' disciples did not expect him to be put to death but there are many passages in the OT (Isaiah 53) that talk about how the Messiah must suffer. Beyond that, Jesus himself talked many times about his death because this is the way that we are saved. Why did Jesus have to suffer and die? How can you show gratitude for what Jesus did?

March 13<sup>th</sup>: Mark 14:26-50

Re-read Mark 14:36

Question: Jesus knew the extreme pain and suffering that he was going to endure and yet he prayed, "not what I will, but what you will." He was not focused on the coming pain but rather being obedient to Gods will. What do you pray about? Is it for selfish things or what God wants? How do you need to adjust what you pray for?

March 14<sup>th</sup>: Mark 14:51-72

Re-read Mark 14:72

Question: In yesterday's reading Peter boldly asserts that he won't deny Jesus but would die for him! However, at the end we see him deny Jesus three times as Jesus said he would. The pressure of standing with Jesus was too much and he gave into denying him. Do you talk about the Bible with kids at school? Do you talk about Jesus with kids at school? Look at your life.... are you ashamed to be associated with Jesus?

March 15th: Mark 15:1-26

Re-read Mark 15:26

Question: Jesus was treated as a criminal and the people chose to free an evil criminal rather than Jesus. Jesus had never done anything wrong and yet they crucified him. He was sinless and the "crime" that hung above him on the cross was that he was the "King of the Jews". Did Jesus ever do anything wrong? How can we learn from Jesus' perfect example?

March 16<sup>th</sup>: Mark 15:27-47

Re-read Mark 15:38

Question: We see these miracles happen when Jesus dies such as darkness and the temple veil being torn. Jesus is the perfect sacrificial lamb who gives us access to the Father, so we no longer need the OT sacrificial system. What is the significance of the veil being torn from top to bottom? What does it mean that we can now have direct access to God through Jesus?

March 17<sup>th</sup>: Mark 16

Re-read Mark 16:15

Question: In Mark 16:9-20 there is this heading that says this does not appear in the earliest manuscripts. Does that mean that this passage is false and didn't happen? No, but it does mean this passage is not found in the earliest manuscripts that they have of Mark. This section might not have been written by Mark himself but added later. However, in verse 15 we see a similar call to evangelize as we see in Matthew 28. What does it mean to evangelize/share the gospel? Have you ever shared the gospel with someone? Who do you need to share the gospel with?

March 18<sup>th</sup>: Luke 1:1-23

Re-read Luke 1:20

Question: Zechariah is an old man when he is told by Gabriel that he is going to have a son. In verse 18 he clearly comes off in a mocking way because it leads to him being mute for a period of time. He did not trust and believe God as he should have. This might remind you of a similar response Sarah had in Genesis when she was told she would have a son! When is it hard for you to trust God or believe what he says? Where have you seen God keep his promise? How can that encourage you to trust him more?

March 19<sup>th</sup>: Luke 1:24-56

Re-read Luke 1:46-47

Question: Mary's response to being told she was going to give birth to the Messiah is to sing praise to God. Such a right response she had! What is something you can praise God for? How will you praise him for that today?

March 20th: Luke 1:57-80

Re-read Luke 1:68

Question: God keeps his promise to Zechariah and despite his unbelief John (the Baptist) was born! Zechariah responds by praising God like Mary did. He talks about the "redemption" that is coming. What does "redemption" mean? How did God accomplish this redemption?

#### March 21st: Luke 2:1-24

Re-read Luke 2:20

Question: At first when the shepherds see the glory of God, they are rightly afraid! However, after they are told about Jesus and see him, they respond with joy and praise! Why are the shepherds rejoicing? Why should we be thankful for Jesus being the Savior? Spend some time thanking God in prayer for sending Jesus to save us!

#### March 22<sup>nd</sup>: Luke 2:25-52

Re-read Luke 2:52

Question: This is the last thing that we are told about Jesus in his childhood until we read about him as an adult. Jesus increased in four things. He grew in wisdom, stature, favor with God, and favor with man. We naturally grow in stature (some more than others) but we need to put in work to grow in the other attributes. How can you grow in wisdom (applied knowledge)? How can you please God more with how you live? How can you show love to others?

# March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Luke 3

Re-read Luke 3:9

Question: John the Baptist called for people to repent. The result of repentance is "bearing fruit". Bearing fruit means living obediently to how God wants you to live. Those who don't "bear fruit" have not truly repented which shows they are not right with God. What is repentance? What does repentance lead to? What do you need to repent of right now?

#### March 24th: Luke 4:1-32

Re-read Luke 4:8

Question: Jesus is led by the Holy Spirit to go out into the wilderness and is tempted by Satan there. He didn't eat for 40 days and Satan tried to take advantage of that. Right when Jesus is being tempted, he thinks of Bible verses. Do you have Bible verses memorized for when you are tempted? Find a verse to memorize based on a temptation you face!

#### March 25<sup>th</sup>: Luke 4:33-44

Re-read Luke 4:36

Question: Jesus demonstrates his authority in casting out demons and healing many sick people. Jesus did this to draw large crowds to him so he could preach the gospel to them. Are you sharing the gospel to others? Who are you sharing it with? Who is someone you need to start talking about Jesus with?

March 26<sup>th</sup>: Luke 5:1-16

Re-read Luke 5:8

Question: Peter recognition of Jesus' righteousness causes him to see himself as sinful. Jesus changes his heart and Peter leaves everything to follow Jesus. He had to give up his old sinful past in order to follow Jesus and we do as well. What is your view of sin? Do you love your sin more than Jesus? What sinful temptations do you need to fight harder?

March 27th: Luke 5:17-39

Re-read Luke 5:31-32

Question: It is only those who recognize they have a problem that go to find the solution. The Pharisees were self-righteous and didn't think that they had a problem with God. Jesus went to the people who saw their sin problem and offered himself as the solution. What is the problem that we have before God? How did Jesus come to provide the solution? How do we accept the solution that Jesus offers?

March 28th: Luke 6:1-26

Re-read Luke 6:9-10

Question: The Pharisees accused Jesus of breaking the Old Testament law, but Jesus demonstrates he is not breaking the law but is doing good by helping others! Jesus never broke any rule or law. He kept ALL of them. Do you know God's rules in the Bible? Do you obey God's rules? Which rule do you need to obey better?

March 29th: Luke 6:27-49

Re-read Luke 6:41-42

Question: Jesus talks about the hypocrisy of pointing out a sin in someone else's life when you are doing the same sin in your own life. You first need to repent of the sin in your life before you call out the sin in other people's lives. What sin does your sibling do that makes you upset? Do you commit that same sin? How can you repent and put something good in place of that sin?

March 30<sup>th</sup>: Luke 7:1-30

Re-read Luke 7:6

Question: The centurion knew the greatness of Jesus and how sinful he was in comparison. Often times our pride gets in the way and makes us think we are greater than we are! How do you view yourself? Is it as a great person or like the centurion did? How do you need to grow in humility?

March 31st: Luke 7:31-50

Re-read Luke 7:47

Question: God is a gracious and despite our sin he will forgive those that repent. As a result of being forgiven by God our lives will be characterized by love. Are you a loving person? How do you show love to other people? How can you practically love your parents today?

April 1st: Luke 8:1-21

Re-read Luke 8:15

Question: Jesus tells this parable to show the different responses to the gospel. The first three soils are people who don't respond rightly but the fourth soil is someone who does respond rightly! As a result, the evidence of a Christian is shown by the good deeds that they do. It is not the good deeds that save them, but it is evidence that they responded rightly. What is the right response to the gospel? What happens once someone repents and puts their trust in Christ? What does it mean to "bear fruit"?

April 2<sup>nd</sup>: Luke 8:22-56

Re-read Luke 8:48

Question: Jesus demonstrates his power by doing miracles and breaking natural law. What are the four miracles that Jesus does in todays reading? What does that say about Jesus' power? How can you have a higher view of Jesus than you did before?

April 3<sup>rd</sup>: Luke 9:1-36

Re-read Luke 9:23-25

Question: The world looks pretty good sometimes. It offers money, fame, success, power, and lots of "good times". But in the end, it doesn't offer the only thing we need: salvation! Jesus calls us to deny ourselves and do what he wants us to do. What do you need to deny yourself in order to follow Jesus?

April 4<sup>th</sup>: Luke 9:37-62

Re-read Luke 9:62

Question: The cost of following after Jesus is turning from our sin and obeying him completely. This verse makes me think of Lot's wife who looked back longingly when Sodom and Gomorrah were being destroyed. It was a reflection of her heart and her love for her sin. Why should we hate sin? What sin tempts you? How can you reject those temptations?

April 5<sup>th</sup>: Luke 10:1-24

Re-read Luke 10:13-14

Question: Lots of people need to hear the good news of the gospel. We need to be sharing the gospel and praying to God for more people to share it as well! Spend some time praying the gospel would be spread through you, Compass Bible Church, and missionaries across the globe!

April 6<sup>th</sup>: Luke 10:25-42

Re-read Luke 10:36-37

Question: It was a Samaritan who showed compassion to the man and was sacrificial in his care. We need not be concerned on ourselves but in showing kindness and compassion to others – even if they are our enemies. What was the point of this parable by Jesus? Who is someone you need to show compassion to? How can you be sacrificial in your care?

April 7<sup>th</sup>: Luke 11:1-28

Re-read Luke 11:2-4

Question: Jesus give the disciples a template on prayer! It is not supposed to be repeated word for word, but they are categories of things to pray through. The different categories are praising God for who He is, praying for Gods will to happen, thanking God for what he provides, asking for forgiveness, and asking for strength to fight temptation. Which of those things do you spend the most time praying for? The least time praying for? Create a prayer journal/list today to keep track of things to pray for and make sure you hit each of the categories that Jesus gives!

April 8<sup>th</sup>: Luke 11:29-54

Re-read Luke 11:34

Question: Jesus has some strong things to say about what we choose to look at. Jesus makes it clear that it affects our whole lives! What are some things that Christians should not be looking at? (Think at school, on TV, the internet, etc.)

April 9<sup>th</sup>: Luke 12:1-34

Re-read Luke 12:22

Question: There are lots of things we can be anxious about, but we are commanded not to! We rather need to trust God because he is in control of all things. Philippians 4:6-7 talks about how our response to anxiety should be prayer to God! What are some things you worry about? Why is anxiety/worry a sin? How will you respond differently next time you are tempted to worry?

April 10<sup>th</sup>: Luke 12:35-59

Re-read Luke 12:40

Question: Jesus makes the point that we need to be ready because Jesus will return a second time. We do not know when he is going to return so we need to expect it at any moment. Expecting Jesus to return at any moment impacts how we live. How often do you think about Jesus' return? Why do we need to be ready for it? How will thinking about Jesus' return impact how you live?

April 11th: Luke 13:1-21

Re-read Luke 13:5

Question: There is a national disaster referenced in verse 1 and 4 that cause people to ask if certain people died because they were worse than others. Jesus answers by making the point that we will all die at some point and we all need to repent, or we will also perish. Why is it wrong for us to compare ourselves to others? What is the way for us to be saved? What is repentance and why do we need to do it?

April 12th: Luke 13:22-35

Re-read Luke 13:27

Question: Verse 27 is one of the scariest verses in the Bible and are words that we don't want to hear, and we don't want others to hear as well. Who is someone you know that needs to be saved? Plan to invite them to church this week!

April 13<sup>th</sup>: Luke 14:1-24

Re-read Luke 14:11

Question: We learn an important lesson about not being quick to take "the best seat in the house" but rather to be humble. Where do you see pride in your life? When do you try to one-up other people? How can you do a better job of uplifting others rather than yourself?

April 14th: Luke 14:25-35

Re-read Luke 14:26

Question: Jesus here is not saying that we are to hate our family and our life. He is saying that we need to make sure our love for God is GREATEST. It is going to be costly to love God and we need to be willing to love him completely! What does it look like to love God? Do you care more about God or other people?

April 15th: Luke 15:1-10

Re-read Luke 15:7

Question: We see two parables about something that is lost and how there is great joy when that item is found. The point of the parable is to show how great rejoicing there is in heaven when someone repents of their sin and puts their trust in Jesus. What does it mean for someone to be "lost"? How does that person get "found"? Why should we be excited when other people are saved?

April 16<sup>th</sup>: Luke 15:11-32

Re-read Luke 15:32

Question: The Pharisees were mad about Jesus welcoming in sinners who were repentant so at the end of this parable you can picture Jesus talking directly to them in saying how we need to celebrate those who repent! Do you care about people being saved? Do you care about your "enemies" being saved? Spend five minutes praying for specific people in your life to repent and trust in Christ!

April 17<sup>th</sup>: Luke 16:1-18

Re-read Luke 16:10

Question: Jesus says we need to use our money wisely and in a way that pleases God. You might think this doesn't apply to you because you don't have a lot of money but that's not true. Jesus says in verse 10 that how you use your money when you have a little bit is how you will use it when you have a lot. How do you use your money? Do you spend it all on yourself or do you give to the church and others? How can you be more generous with your money?

April 18<sup>th</sup>: Luke 16:19-31

Re-read Luke 16:31

Question: The dead rich man asks Abraham to send Lazarus back from the dead to warn his brothers to repent and trust God! Abraham says that Moses/the Prophets (The Bible) are more powerful to save than a person coming back from the dead. Do you view the Bible as this powerful? How can you have a higher view of the Bible?

April 19<sup>th</sup>: Luke 17:1-19

Re-read Luke 17:1-2

Question: Jesus takes sin seriously so we should as well! He said it is better for a big stone to be tied to someone's neck and thrown into the sea rather than be the cause of someone else sinning. What is the point of Jesus saying this? In what ways do you cause your siblings to sin? How can you encourage your siblings to do the right thing?

April 20th: Luke 17:20-37

Re-read Luke 17:33

Question: Jesus is going to return again! In the end times will be judgement for those who are not right with God. We need to get right with God now before it's too late! What do we learn in this passage about the coming judgement for non-Christians? What does it mean to "lose your life" to Christ?

April 21st: Luke 18:1-17

Re-read Luke 18:4-5

Question: This widow is persistent in getting justice from a judge who finally gives in because of how persistent she was. The point is that we need to be persistent like the widow in our requests to God. What is prayer? Why should we be persistent in our prayers? Spend 5 minutes praying to God for your friends, family, and neighbors.

April 22<sup>nd</sup>: Luke 18:18-43

Re-read Luke 18:19

Question: This rich man thought he was good because there were people who did worse things than him, but he was not good when it comes to Gods standard(perfection). Jesus exposes that this man valued his riches more than following God. What is most important in your life right now? What do you value the most? Why does God need to be number 1 in our lives?

April 23rd: Luke 19:1-28

Re-read Luke 19:8

Question: We see the effects of repentance in Zacchaeus' life. He changed the way he was living and gave back to those that he had taken from. Who is someone that you have wronged? How can you make it right with them? Spend some time asking God for forgiveness and then go to that person and make it right!

April 24th: Luke 19:29-48

Re-read Luke 19:40

Question: As Jesus enters Jerusalem for the last time before his death the people rejoice and praise God. The Pharisees tell Jesus to rebuke those praising him as God, but he says that if they were silent the rocks would cry out that he is God! When is the last time you praised God? Why do we need to worship God? Spend time today listening to worship songs and praising God for who He is!

April 25<sup>th</sup>: Luke 20:1-26

Re-read Luke 20:25

Question: In his discussion with the religious leaders in Jerusalem, Jesus stumps their hard questions that were intended to make people angry at him. Jesus told the people to pay their taxes, but more importantly, he told them to serve God. Specifically, how can you serve God today?

April 26th: Luke 20:27-47

Re-read Luke 20:46-47

Question: The Pharisees were very prideful! This is clear through them sitting in the best seats, taking from widows, and saying long prayers to make themselves seem holy. The result of this is greater condemnation(punishment) in the end. What does it mean to be prideful? What are some examples of pride in your life? How will you put others ahead of yourself?

April 27<sup>th</sup>: Luke 21:1-19

Re-read Luke 21:3-4

Question: Jesus points out this woman because she gave to God even when she did not have much money. We need to be generous with our money even if we do not have a lot of it. How do you spend your money? Do you give any of it to the church or other people? How can you give more sacrificially like this poor widow?

April 28th: Luke 21:20-38

Re-read Luke 21:33

Question: Jesus says that heaven and earth will pass away, but his words will not pass away. We can trust what Jesus says and that what he says will happen. What does it mean that Jesus' "words will not pass away"? Why can we trust what Jesus says?

April 29<sup>th</sup>: Luke 22:1-30

Re-read Luke 22:26

Question: An argument breaks out among the disciples as to who is the greatest. Jesus responds by saying the greatest is the one who serves. Why is it foolish to argue about who is the greatest? In what ways do you serve others? How can you do better at serving your parents?

April 30th: Luke 22:31-53

Re-read Luke 22:42

Question: Doing what God wants can be hard sometimes! The hardest thing anyone ever had to do was die on the cross for our sins. We are supposed to submit to Gods plan. When is this hard for you? Why should you choose to submit to God?

May 1st: Luke 22:54-71

Re-read Luke 22:61

Question: Peter denies being a follower of Christ three times. He was more afraid of what might happen to him than being associated with Jesus. When it the last time you have told someone about Jesus? Are you afraid of what others think? How can you focus more on what God thinks?

May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Luke 23:1-26

Re-read Luke 23:11

Question: Jesus was treated as a criminal even though he had never done a single thing wrong. He went through the mocking and suffering to provide a way for us to be saved. How often do you thank God for what He did for us? Spend five minutes thanking God for sending Christ to suffer in our place!!

May 3<sup>rd</sup>: Luke 23:27-38

Re-read Luke 23:34

Question: Look at the compassion Jesus has for the people! Even though he is being tortured, he asks God to forgive the very people who were killing him. We are called to forgive like God forgave us! Are there people in your life right now that you have not forgiven? How can you forgive them today?

May 4<sup>th</sup>: Luke 23:39-56

Re-read Luke 23:44

Question: As Jesus died there was darkness for three hours. This is a miraculous in the middle of the day from 12:00-3:00pm because the Messiah is being killed! The death of Jesus was so evil and yet necessary for us to be saved. Why is the death of Jesus so evil and saddening? However, why can Christians be so thankful for it?

May 5<sup>th</sup>: Luke 24:1-35

Re-read Luke 24:27

Question: After Jesus rose from the dead, he appeared to many people starting with two of his followers who didn't recognize him. They had a bunch of questions and Jesus wanted them to know the truth, so he explains truths about himself from the Old Testament! What does the Old Testament say about Jesus?

May 6<sup>th</sup>: Luke 24:36-53

Re-read Luke 24:45-47

Question: Jesus explains Scripture to the disciples and commands them to proclaim the gospel! It is our mission as well to tell others about Jesus! Have you ever told somebody else about Jesus? Who is someone you are going to tell about Jesus this week?

May 7<sup>th</sup>: John 1:1-28

Re-read John 1:14

Question: Such an incredible thing it is that Jesus came to earth and put on flesh. He is 100% God and 100% man! Why is it necessary for Jesus to be God? Why is it necessary for Jesus to be man?

May 8<sup>th</sup>: John 1:29-51

Re-read John 1:29

Question: John the Baptist sees Jesus and calls Jesus him the "Lamb of God". Why does he call him that? (What were lambs used for in the Old Testament?) Why is this important for us?

## May 9<sup>th</sup>: John 2

Re-read John 2:11

Question: Jesus turning water into wine is the first miracle that Jesus did. It demonstrates his miraculous power! He is clearly different from all other humans and shows himself to have the power of God! What was the disciple's response to this miracle in verse 11? What should our response be to all that Jesus did?

May 10th: John 3:1-21

Re-read John 3:16

Question: God's love is shown through action. He did not just say that he loves us but showed us through sending Jesus for us. Do you tell your parents that you love them? How can do a better job of showing your love to your parents?

May 11th: John 3:22-36

Re-read John 3:30

Question: John the Baptist lived not to exalt himself but rather to promote the Messiah! John recognizes he is not the Messiah, so he wants Jesus to be praised and followed! In what ways do you try to draw attention to yourself? How can you be humbler in those situations instead?

May 12th: John 4:1-30

Re-read John 4:13-14

Question: Jesus exposes the sin of this woman and offers himself as "living water" that will satisfy her forever. He is showing himself as the only way to salvation and eternal life. What are some wrong ways that you have heard about how to be saved? Who is the only person that offers salvation?

May 13th: John 4:31-54

Re-read John 4:34

Question: Jesus was not concerned about his next meal because he was so focused on doing what God wanted him to do. What are you focused on in life? What do you think about the most? How can you adjust your focus onto obeying God better?

May 14th: John 5:1-24

Re-read John 5:18

Question: We read of the two reasons the Jews wanted to kill Jesus. The first reason was Jesus saying he was God which is true. The second was him healing someone on the Sabbath which is not breaking the Sabbath. Regardless, they hated Jesus, so they tried to use these as a way to kill him. What are the two reasons that they wanted to kill Jesus? Why is Jesus right in what he did?

May 15<sup>th</sup>: John 5:25-47

Re-read John 5:39-40

Question: The Scriptures and the prophets talk about Jesus being the Messiah. If they believed the Old Testament and the Bible, then they would believe Jesus because the Bible talks about him. Why did the people not want to listen to Jesus? Why can we believe what Jesus says? Why can we believe what the Bible says?

May 16<sup>th</sup>: John 6:1-21

Re-read John 6:13

Question: In the account of Jesus feeding the five thousand, we rarely think about the boy with the loaves and fish, and perhaps it is good as we point the attention to Jesus. But this boy gave what he had to Jesus, and Jesus used it. Jesus wants you to offer whatever you have in service to him (your time, skills, work, money, etc.). What can you offer him today?

May 17th: John 6:22-44

Re-read John 6:35

Question: In yesterday's reading Jesus provides bread for the people's physical needs, but today teaches he is the "bread of life" that will satisfy their spiritual needs. What does it mean that Jesus is the "bread of life"? What are things we can want but not get without Jesus Christ (ex: happiness, joy, peace, love)? How can you be satisfied in Christ?

May 18<sup>th</sup>: John 6:45-71

Re-read John 6:66-68

Question: After Jesus said some "hard sayings" it caused people to leave and stop following him. However, the disciples did not leave because they completely trusted Jesus. Do true Christians ever stop following Jesus? What does that tell us about those who left Jesus? Are you obediently following Jesus?

May 19th: John 7:1-31

Re-read John 7:26

Question: There was much talk about Jesus among the people and who Jesus was. Some people thought he might be the Messiah from the Old Testament, but others thought he was not. What does the Bible say about who Jesus is? Who do you think Jesus is?

May 20th: John 7:32-53

Re-read John 7:39

Question: Those who put their trust in Jesus receive the Holy Spirit in their life. Having the Holy Spirit leads to you living completely different from the world. Who is someone you know that is a Christian? How do they live differently than a non-Christian?

May 21st: John 8:1-20

Re-read John 8:12

Question: Christians will not live in constant patterns of sin but will live a holy life in obedience to God. What does it mean to live a holy life? What sin do you see in your own life? How can you do a better job of not giving in to those sins?

May 22<sup>nd</sup>: John 8:21-36

Re-read John 8:31

Question: It is clear, Jesus wants his followers to listen to him. Not only does he want them to know what he says, he wants them to do what he says. Do you read/listen to his Word everyday? Furthermore, do you think about his Word throughout the day?

May 23rd: John 8:37-59

Re-read John 8:58-59

Question: The Jewish people were upset and wanted to kill Jesus because he claimed to be God. He said that he was the only way for them to be set free from their sin. Why is it such a big deal that Jesus is God? How does that impact the way that you listen to what He says?

## May 24<sup>th</sup>: John 9:1-23

Re-read John 9:21-23

Question: Jesus makes this blind man able to see and yet the Jews do not believe until the parents come and attest for the man. However, they are afraid to say the truth because they were afraid of the Jews who were against Jesus. The Bible says that people will oppose those who follow Jesus because they opposed Jesus. Should Christians be surprised if people oppose them? Why not? How do people oppose Christians today?

May 25th: John 9:24-41

Re-read John 9:33

Question: The blind man gives a strong defense of who Jesus is and we see his faith on display. We see how powerful it can be when we tell others about Jesus! Which of your friends can you invite to church this week? How will you invite them?

May 26th: John 10:1-21

Re-read John 10:11

Question: Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd. He is the leader who laid down his life for his people. How did Jesus lay down his life? How should that cause the sheep (Christians) to follow the shepherd?

May 27th: John 10:22-42

Re-read John 10:28

Question: True Christians are forever saved from the penalty of their sin in hell. When God saves someone, they live for God the rest of their lives and then go to heaven. A Christian does not need to fear death and hell because their eternity is secure in Gods hand. Why are people afraid to die? Why should a Christian not be afraid to die? Do you know where you are going when you die?

May 28th: John 11:1-17

Re-read John 11:16

Question: The disciples, at this time, did not know that Jesus was going to raise Lazarus from the dead. They thought that when Jesus said they were going to Lazarus it meant that they were all going to die as well. However, they were still willing to listen and follow Jesus even to the death. What does that tell us about the dedication of the disciples to Jesus? Do you have that same dedication to Jesus?

May 29<sup>th</sup>: John 11:18-46

Re-read John 11:35

Question: The shortest verse in the Bible can be confusing when you think why was Jesus crying if we knew he would raise Lazarus from the dead? It is because the reality of death is such a sad and somber thing that this is the proper reaction to it. How often do you think about death? What is your reaction to it?

May 30th: John 11:47-57

Re-read John 11:50

Question: Caiaphas unknowingly prophecies about Jesus dying for the nation. He thought it would be better for them to kill Jesus than for an uprising to start and have Rome come in and squash them all. Did Jesus deserve to die? How did Caiaphas' statement come true? Why can we be thankful for all that Jesus did?

May 31st: John 12:1-19

Re-read John 12:5-6

Question: Judas was upset at Mary anointing Jesus' feet because he wanted the money that he could have taken by selling the ointment. We see Judas' true colors come through and show that even though he "followed Jesus" his heart was far from him. What do we learn about Judas in this section? What is the difference between following Jesus as Judas did and actually being a real follower of Christ? Which one are you?

June 1<sup>st</sup>: John 12:20-50

Re-read John 12:42-43

Question: People at the time of Jesus and today are more concerned about what other people think rather than what God thinks. Why are people afraid to talk about Jesus today? Are you afraid to speak up at school because of what others might think or say? Why is obedience to God more important than fearing people?

June 2<sup>nd</sup>: John 13:1-17

Re-read John 13:14-15

Question: Jesus is God. He is the Creator of the universe, yet he wrapped a towel around his waist and began to wash his disciples' smelly feet. As unpleasant as this sounds, he tells them to serve others when he is gone. Serving people doesn't always feel good. How can you serve your family today?

## June 3<sup>rd</sup>: John 13:18-38

Re-read John 13:26-27

Question: We see the steps of Judas betraying Jesus who knew about the plot the entire time. We see how engulfed Judas was in doing what Satan wanted which was giving up Jesus for money. What was the disciples' response in verse 28 to Jesus telling Judas to do something quickly? How does this evil act by Judas turn out for good in Gods sovereign plan?

## June 4th: John 14

Re-read John 14:16-17

Question: Jesus talks about him going away which makes the disciples confused, but Jesus said it is a good thing because then the Holy Spirit (The Helper) will be given to the disciples. All those who put their trust in Christ have the Holy Spirit within them. Why does Jesus say it is a good thing for him to go away? What does the Holy Spirit help a Christian do?

## June 5th: John 15

Re-read John 15:13

Question: Love is shown through action. Jesus showed us the greatest act of love in dying on the cross for our sin. We should love others through doing kind things for others even when it is hard for us. What will you do to show sacrificial love to your friends this week?

June 6<sup>th</sup>: John 16:1-15

Re-read John 16:2-4

Question: This section is an extension from yesterday's reading where Jesus tells the disciples of the hatred they will receive from the world because they follow him. However, when bad things come, they will be ready because Jesus told them about it. What persecution do people face for following Jesus? Why is it helpful for Jesus to tell them about it beforehand? Spend some time praying for Christians today who are being persecuted for their faith around the world!

June 7<sup>th</sup>: John 16:16-33

Re-read John 16:33

Question: In the midst of all the hardship that Christians are promised, there is peace. Jesus spoke over and over again to the fact that this world is not all there is. Jesus has victory over the world, and we can share in that victory and have peace in him! How can Christians have peace even when hard times come?

June 8th: John 17

Re-read John 17:15-17

Question: Jesus prays right before he is about to suffer a terrible death on the cross and his prayer is not about himself but for his followers. He prays for them to be protected from the evil one and to grow in Gods Word. How often do you pray for others? Who are some people you need to pray for? Spend some time praying for them to be more like Jesus and obey Gods Word.

June 9<sup>th</sup>: John 18:1-23

Re-read John 18:11

Question: Judas comes with many to arrest Jesus! A crazy demonstration of Jesus' power is shown when he says, "I am he" and the people fall to the ground. Then Simon Peter comes in and tries to defend Jesus with a sword, but Jesus knows it is his time and he tells Peter to stop. Why did Peter try to defend Jesus? Why did Jesus stop him? What does it say about Jesus that he knew the pain he was about to go through and yet willingly did it for us?

June 10th: John 18:24-40

Re-read John 18:36

Question: Jesus was focused on eternity and pointing people to himself as the way to get right with God. The people were focused on an earthly kingdom and thinking Jesus was coming to take over politically. What are some important things that matter for eternity? What are some things that don't? Do you focus more on what matters now or what matters for eternity?

June 11<sup>th</sup>: John 19:1-22

Re-read John 19:10-11

Question: Pilate questions why Jesus is not answering because he has authority to have him be killed. However, Jesus points out that ultimately it is God to has the authority and is in charge of putting people where he wants. Who ultimately gave Pilate the authority he had? Who ultimately gives the authority to powerful people today? What does that teach you about God being in control?

June 12<sup>th</sup>: John 19:23-42

Re-read John 19:36

Question: Even in Jesus' death he is fulfilling prophecy in not having any of his bones broken. He died such a painful and torturous death and yet through it continued to fulfill all the prophecies regarding his death. What does that tell you about if Jesus is the Messiah prophesied about in the OT? How does reading about the death of Jesus increase your gratitude of what he did?

June 13th: John 20

Re-read John 20:30-31

Question: Here we read of the purpose of this book which is so that "you may believe that Jesus is the Christ" and "that by believing you may have life in his name". The gospels don't have every single detail about Jesus' life, but it is sufficient for us to understand who he is and put our trust in him! What is the purpose of the book of John? Have you put your complete trust in Jesus Christ? What is keeping you from doing that?

June 14th: John 21

Re-read John 21:17

Question: Jesus asks Peter three times if he loves him. Jesus is showing him that those who truly love Jesus will care for others. Peter goes on to become a prominent person in the early church. Do you love Jesus? Does your life show that you love Jesus? How can you care for others at church better?

## June 15th: Acts 1

#### Re-read Acts 1:14

Question: After Jesus ascends into heaven the disciples met together and they spent time praying together. We might think there are a lot of good things that they might do, but they prioritize prayer. Why is prayer important? How important is prayer to you? Spend 5 minutes praying to God!

#### June 16th: Acts 2:1-13

#### Re-read Acts 2:6

Question: We see this incredible miracle happen at the beginning of the church where the disciples are able to speak in other languages. This only took place at the start of the early church in order to validate Gods message and to spread it to many people. The good news of Jesus Christ is so important that it needs to be spread across the globe. Do you ever think about those around the world that need to hear about Jesus? Why are sending out missionaries and starting new churches so important?

## June 17<sup>th</sup>: Acts 2:14-47

#### Re-read Acts 2:41

Question: Peter gives this masterful speech about Jesus being the Messiah as talked about in the Old Testament and now providing a way of salvation for those who believe. After this there are 3,000 people who become Christians in one day! How awesome is that! How did Peter show boldness in telling others about Jesus? How can you tell others about Jesus? Who do you need to tell about Jesus?

## June 18th: Acts 3

Re-read Acts 3:19

Question: Peter calls for the people to REPENT! This miracle of healing a beggar who could not walk got the people's attention to which he used to point them to Jesus and urge them to repent. What does it mean to repent? Why does every single person need to repent?

## June 19th: Acts 4:1-22

Re-read Acts 4:12

Question: Peter once again makes it clear that there is no other way to get right with God than to trust in what Jesus did. What are some wrong ways that people try to get right with God? What is the only way to get right with God? Have you responded rightly?

## June 20th: Acts 4:23-37

Re-read Acts 4:32

Question: The people who became Christians were not selfish with the things they had but were generous towards each other and those in need. In what ways are you selfish with what you have? How can you be more generous to those around you?

#### June 21st: Acts 5:1-16

#### Re-read Acts 5:8-9

Question: Ananias and Sapphira lied about how much money they had sold a piece a land for and we are shown how serious God takes lying. Do you view lying as a big deal or small deal? How does God view lying? In what ways do you need to be more truthful?

## June 22<sup>nd</sup>: Acts 5:17-42

#### Re-read Acts 5:29

Question: The apostles were put in prison for preaching the gospel and then released by an angel of the Lord. They then go and continue preaching the gospel!! They were concerned about obeying God over man - no matter the consequences. Do you think more about what God wants or what your friends want? What does God want you to do? How are you doing at obeying God?

## June 23rd: Acts 6

### Re-read Acts 6:13

Question: There were people who were set up to lie about Stephen to get him in trouble because he was telling other people about Jesus. Jesus told the disciples that those who follow him should expect others to say mean things and lie about them. Why were they trying to get Stephen in trouble? Was he doing anything wrong? Why should Christians expect pushback for their faith?

June 24th: Acts 7:1-19

Re-read Acts 7:2

Question: Stephen gives this great sermon about how God worked in the Old Testament. Pick one of the characters Stephen mentions and write about what about God is shown in that story!

June 25th: Acts 7:20-43

Re-read Acts 7:39

Question: Stephen talks about the disobedience of Moses and the people of Israel. They did not obey God and listen to him but rather worshipped a golden calf even after God saved them from Egypt. Why do we need to obey God? How do you need to obey God at school this week?

June 26th: Acts 7:44-60

Re-read Acts 7:60

Question: Stephen becomes the first martyr in the beginning of the church. Even in his death he asks that God would not hold this sin against them. We see he is not angry and vengeful, but he wants them the people to see the truth and respond rightly to Jesus. What causes you to get angry towards others? How can you forgive others in the future when you are wronged?

June 27th: Acts 8:1-25

Re-read Acts 8:22

Question: Simon the Magician wanted the Holy Spirit because he thought it would give him some magic powers that would help him. He did not understand what the Holy Spirit does in the life of a Christian and how it is received through repentance and faith in Jesus. Who has the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit help Christians do?

June 28th: Acts 8:26-40

Re-read Acts 8:35

Question: Philip comes alongside this Ethiopian man who is trying to learn about the Bible, and he shares the gospel with him. The Ethiopian man responds rightly and becomes right with God. What do you talk about with your friends? How can you talk about the Bible more with them?

June 29th: Acts 9:1-22

Re-read Acts 9:22

Question: Saul used to be someone who hated Christians and was even there when Stephen was killed. However, God changed him and transformed his life! This is what happens when someone becomes a Christian. They no longer do their old sinful habits but now live obediently to what God wants. What was Saul like before he became a Christian? What was he like after he became a Christian? What does that teach us about the power that Jesus has?

June 30<sup>th</sup>: Acts 9:23-43

Re-read Acts 9:27

Question: There were some Christians who, understandably so, were unsure if Paul was really a Christian because he used to kill Christians! However, Barnabas brings Paul into the group because he sees how God is working in his life! Who are some people you know that are "on the outside"? How can you bring them into the group?

July 1st. Acts 10:1-23

Re-read Acts 10:13-15

Question: Peter has a vision where God tells him to eat certain foods. Peter does not want to at first because in the Old Testament there were certain ceremonial laws that made some animals unclean. However, here we have God stating that all animals are clean and able to be eaten. Write down some animals that were unclean in Leviticus 11. How does todays reading address the unclean animals in the OT?

July 2<sup>nd</sup>: Acts 10:24-48

Re-read Acts 10:34-35

Question: There is not only one particular nation or people group that can be right with God but all who repent and trust in Christ. How does someone become right with God? Is it the same way for all people? Who do you need to tell about Jesus?

July 3<sup>rd</sup>: Acts 11

Re-read Acts 11:23

Question: When Barnabas came to Antioch, he came to encourage the people to be more like Jesus! He calls them to be faithful! What does it look like in your life to be faithful? How can you encourage your friends at school to be faithful in obeying God?

July 4th: Acts 12

Re-read Acts 12:23

Question: We see Herod, who was an evil man, persecute Christians at the beginning of the chapter and in the end, we see him struck down by God for his pride. It does not end well for those who disregard God and live prideful lives. What happens to those who live in rebellion to God? What does this teach us about the justice of God?

July 5<sup>th</sup>: Acts 13:1-23

Re-read Acts 13:10

Question: Paul rebukes this magician who was turning people away from God through his actions. He didn't want people to hear the truth that Paul was preaching! Why do people like to make fun of the Bible? How can you stand up for the truth this week?

July 6<sup>th</sup>: Acts 13:24-52

Re-read Acts 13:44

Question: Paul preaches the gospel to a group of Jews who create such a big deal that the whole city shows up the next week to hear! God does BIG things when we are bold to tell others about him! In what ways can you be bold for God? How does God reward those who are bold in obeying him?

July 7<sup>th</sup>: Acts 14

Re-read Acts 14:14-15

Question: As Paul and Barnabas travel doing miraculous signs, some people mistake them for gods. (Zeus and Hermes are two Greek gods). Instead of taking the glory for themselves, they direct it towards God. They tear their clothes because they are so upset that people were worshipping them. Why does the praise always need to go to God? How can you direct other people's praise to God this week?

July 8<sup>th</sup>: Acts 15:1-21

Re-read Acts 15:11

Question: Peter and the apostles were having a big discussion about whether or not they wanted to make non-Jewish Christians obey all the same Jewish rules. Peter reminds them that all people who are Christians are saved the same way by the grace of Jesus through faith! This means that they were to stop making distinctions between other Christians based on their background. Do you show favoritism towards some people at church because of what they look like or where they are from? How can you be more welcoming to all people at church?

July 9<sup>th</sup>: Acts 15:22-41

Re-read Acts 15:38-39

Question: We read about a disagreement that arises between Paul and Barnabas and it causes them to split up and go do missionary work in different ways. Have you ever had a disagreement with a friend? How can you resolve those disagreements and remain unified?

July 10th: Acts 16:1-15

Re-read Acts 16:10

Question: Paul responds immediately when told to do something by God. We need to act just as quickly when we are told to do things from Gods Word. Are you quick to obey what the Bible says? How can you do a better job of obeying what God tells you to do?

July 11<sup>th</sup>: Acts 16:16-40

Re-read Acts 16:25

Question: Paul and Silas were put in prison and rather than being upset and sad they sang songs in worship to God. It is a great reminder that no matter the situation we still have reason to praise God! When is it hard for you to praise God? Why do you still need to worship him despite hard circumstances?

July 12th: Acts 17:1-15

Re-read Acts 17:6

Question: Jason is a Christian that is well-known for his faith. He is dragged before the leaders of Thessalonica. They charged him for "turning the world upside down". He was turning the world upside down with the gospel. Are you turning your sports teams/classrooms/friend groups upside down with the gospel?

July 13<sup>th</sup>: Acts 17:16-34

Re-read Acts 17:32

Question: Paul gives a speech to the Athenians where he shares the gospel. The response by the people in verse 32 is that some people make fun while others are interested to hear more. Those are usually the two responses we get when we share the gospel. We need to go after those who are wanting to hear more. Have you told someone else about Jesus before? What was their response?

July 14th: Acts 18

Re-read Acts 18:26

Question: Apollos was being bold to tell others about Jesus. Priscilla and Aquila helped him to understand more about God and to train him. It is important for us to have people around us who will help us grow and learn more about Jesus. Why is it important to keep learning more about God? Who in your life teaches you about God? How can you learn from their example?

July 15<sup>th</sup>: Acts 19:1-20

Re-read Acts 19:19

Question: The Ephesians saw some crazy things in a short period of time. Demons attacked the sons of priests and the gospel was preached. In response to this, they took their magic books and burned them in the city (worth a total of 50,000 pieces of silver). The people of Ephesus gave up their old lives to serve and obey Jesus. What will you give up this week to better obey Jesus?

July 16th: Acts 19:21-41

Re-read Acts 19:23

Question: This whole section describes a dangerous riot in Ephesus involving idol worshippers who hated Christians. It was probably a scary time for the Christians there, but they were bold. Why was it a scary time for Christians? Why were they able to be bold despite the opposition? How can you be bold for what you believe about Jesus today?

July 17th: Acts 20:1-16

Re-read Acts 20:3

Question: Paul was constantly in danger because the Jews saw him as a traitor. Often times, when people's lives change because of Jesus, there are people who don't like them anymore. Why would people not like Christians? Do you know of anyone who doesn't like Christians? Spend some time praying for those people.

July 18th: Acts 20:17-38

Re-read Acts 20:35

Question: Even while Paul was out preaching the gospel he still worked to provide and care for those who needed help. He was willing to work hard for the sake of others. Do you work hard at your school and chores? How can you do a better job at the work you do?

July 19th: Acts 21:1-14

Re-read Acts 21:13

Question: Of all the people who were willing to do big things for God in the Bible, Paul may have done the most! It is amazing to see his boldness and readiness to share the gospel! Why was he so bold for Jesus? How far are you willing to go for Jesus?

July 20th: Acts 21:15-40

Re-read Acts 21:30-31

Question: Paul was constantly in danger for being a Christian. What kind of dangers do Christians face around the world today? The United States? What danger would you face for becoming a Christian?

July 21st: Acts 22

Re-read Acts 22:1

Question: Paul speaks before a large group of Jews and explains how Jesus brought him to salvation. The specific group he is sent to preach to is the Gentiles (those who are not Jewish). Who are the people God has put in your life that you need to tell about Jesus?

July 22<sup>nd</sup>: Acts 23:1-11

Re-read Acts 23:1

Question: Having a good "conscience" is important to Paul, and it should be important to us too. This means we should do what we know is right. What are some tough situations that you will face today, that you must choose to do what is right?

July 23<sup>rd</sup>: Acts 23:12-35

Re-read Acts 23:16

Question: There was a young man who had an important mission. He was bold to tell his uncle Paul about the plot against him. That must have been pretty scary for him! What are some scary situations in your life? How can you trust God more in those situations?

July 24th: Acts 24

Re-read Acts 24:15

Question: Paul was not causing a stir but was on trial before Felix (the governor of the area) because of his belief in the resurrection. When we die it is not over, but we will all stand before God and give an account for how we lived. How does thinking about the resurrection impact how you live now?

July 25th: Acts 25

Re-read Acts 25:8

Question: Paul was being accused of doing something worthy of death even though he had never done anything to break the law. He was merely preaching the gospel! When we share the gospel, people will oppose us for it! Why does the world oppose Christians? How can you be ready when opposition comes?

July 26th: Acts 26

Re-read Acts 26:28-29

Question: Paul shares the gospel and his testimony of salvation to the wicked King of Israel. King Agrippa began to realize that it was important for him to respond to this message. It takes more than just hearing and knowing the gospel, but rather trusting in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus to be saved. Agrippa never responded rightly to the gospel, have you?

July 27th: Acts 27:1-25

Re-read Acts 27:25

Question: All 276 passengers on Paul's ship must have been scared for their lives. In verse 20 it says that the men had "abandoned" all hope of making it. However, Paul was told by an angel that all would survive so he trusted God! Why should we trust God even in scary situations? What are some things you must trust God for?

July 28th: Acts 27:26-44

Re-read Acts 27:35

Question: Paul gave thanks to God for providing in the midst of a shipwreck and disastrous trip. You might find it easier to give thanks to God for your food after going two weeks without it, but how thankful are you for what God provides every day? Spend some time thanking God in prayer for all he gives us!

July 29th: Acts 28:1-15

Re-read Acts 28:2

Question: The native people in Malta showed Paul unusual kindness and were welcoming to those who had been shipwrecked on this island. We even see in verse 10 that they gave them supplies when they were about to leave. In what ways can you show kindness to those around you?

## July 30<sup>th</sup>: Acts 28:16-31

#### Re-read Acts 28:30-31

Question: Paul finished his missionary journey in Rome where he ended up dying for Jesus. He preached about the kingdom and people were won to Jesus in the process. As we finish the book of Acts, what is something about Paul that you wish to be more like? How can you better share Jesus by looking to the example found in Paul?

## July 31st: Romans 1

#### Re-read Romans 1:16

Question: Verse 16 is the main point of Paul's letter to Rome. He tells them he is not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation. As you live in the world today, what does it look like to be unashamed of the gospel? What does it look like to be ashamed? Are you ashamed of the gospel?

## August 1st: Romans 2

# Re-read Romans 2:5

Question: The Jewish people that Paul was writing to thought they were better off than others because they had the law of God. However, Paul says that because they are disobeying the law and not repenting that they are storing up a greater judgement for themselves. What happens to those who never repent of their sins? What about those who repent?

## August 2<sup>nd</sup>: Romans 3

#### Re-read Romans 3:10-12

Question: The world likes to tell us that we are good people, but this passage tells us something else. We are quick to do evil and disregard what God says. It is only through Christ's life, death, and resurrection that we can be made right before God. In what ways have you seen these verses true in todays world? Why are humans quick to disobey Gods commands? What is the only way to be saved?

# August 3rd: Romans 4

#### Re-read Romans 4:2-3

Question: Some people thought Abraham was saved because of the good works he did. Paul makes the point that if it was based off works, Abraham would be able to boast about earning his salvation. However, salvation is a gift from God, and it was through Abrahams faith in God that he was saved! How is someone saved? What does it mean to "put your faith in God"?

# August 4th: Romans 5

#### Re-read Romans 5:6-8

Question: Paul reminds the Romans how much they deserved Christ's love! Not at all! No one does! Jesus came and died while we were all sinners. There was nothing loveable about us, but he chose to love us. How does that change the way you look at the death of Jesus? How can you better show love to others?

# August 5th: Romans 6

### Re-read Romans 6:17-18

Question: Before Christ, we were all enslaved to sin. That means we had to give in to sin and we cannot "say no" to it. However, those who trust in Jesus are no longer slaves to sin but slaves to God. What does it mean to be a "slave to sin"? What does it look like to be a "slave of God"? Which one are you?

# August 6<sup>th</sup>: Romans 7

Re-read Romans 7:22-23

Question: After talking about the struggle between sin and the law, Paul reminds them that Jesus came to bring victory over sin. Paul saw victory over sin in his own life. Do you see victory over sin in your life? What temptations do you have to fight often?

# August 7th: Romans 8:1-18

Re-read Romans 8:18

Question: There is pushback for following Jesus, but Paul says the pain is worth it because of how great the glory is going to be one day in heaven. How often do you think about heaven? Why does thinking about heaven make the pain in this life seem smaller?

# August 8th: Romans 8:19-39

Re-read Romans 8:38-39

Question: Paul makes a strong claim here. He says that NOTHING can separate a person from the love God has for them. Although we may separated from Gods love at times, those who are right with God are not. How did God show his love for us? How can you remind yourself daily of Gods amazing love?

# August 9th: Romans 9

Re-read Romans 9:20

Question: When people question Gods plan, it is like a pot questioning its maker about why it was made a certain way. Paul's point: don't question Gods plan. When are you tempted to question Gods plan? Why should we choose to trust God?

# August 10th: Romans 10

Re-read Romans 10:9

Question: What a great promise! We need to share the message that those who repent and put their trust in Jesus will be saved! Who are some of your closest friends? Have they responded to this message? Have you responded to the message?

## August 11th: Romans 11:1-21

### Re-read Romans 11:6

Question: Paul is talking to Jews who are saved. He reminds them that they are still saved by grace, and not by works, so they are not better than everyone else. Sometimes, it's hard for church kids to NOT feel like they are better than everyone else. How can you be a humbler follower of Christ?

## August 12th: Romans 11:22-36

#### Re-read Romans 11:33

Question: God is so great and wise that it is often times difficult to understand him and what he does. All that we know about God is revealed to us through creation and His Word. What are some things about God that are hard for you to understand? How can you trust God even when you don't fully understand what he does?

## August 13th: Romans 12

#### Re-read Romans 12:9-10

Question: Love is the mark of a true Christian. Christ has shown us love in sending Christ, so we need to show the same Christ-like love to those around us. Why is it difficult to show Christ-like love? Who do you need to show genuine love to today?

## August 14<sup>th</sup>: Romans 13

### Re-read Romans 13:1

Question: All the authorities in our lives have been placed there by God. We are told to honor and obey the governing authorities (even if they are evil people) because they have been placed there by God. Who are some authorities in your life? How can you better honor and obey them without complaining?

# August 15th: Romans 14

#### Re-read Romans 14:13

Question: Christians should never do something that would cause another person to sin. God makes clear how serious he treats sin, so we need to as well! In what ways might you cause a sibling or a friend to sin? How can you push others to consistently do the right thing?

# August 16<sup>th</sup>: Romans 15:1-20

#### Re-read Romans 15:5-6

Question: Paul encourages the people to live in "harmony with one another" so that they can glorify God together. This means to get along with everyone at church(specifically). How can you be a better friend at church this weekend? How can you reach out to new people?

## August 17<sup>th</sup>: Romans 15:21-33

Re-read Romans 15:30

Question: Paul is asking for prayer! There are many people in your life today that need prayer. Has anyone asked you for prayer recently? Who needs prayer in your life? Spend 10 minutes praying for those people!

# August 18th: Romans 16

Re-read Romans 16:17

Question: There are people who will look to cause divisions in the church, and we need to stay away from them. We need to be wise in dealing with these people, so we keep unity within the church. Why is it important for Christians to be unified? How can you be someone who brings people together?

# August 19th: 1 Corinthians 1

Re-read 1 Corinthians 1:29

Question: Throughout Scripture we often see God choose those who are lowly in the world to follow him. Those who are "wise" in the world reject God and will one day be punished for their rebellion. However, the lowly recognize their need for God and follow him. They don't boast in themselves but rather in the Lord. Why do those who are "wise" or "strong" in the world often reject God? Why is that the wrong response to the gospel? What is the right response?

## August 20th: 1 Corinthians 2

Re-read 1 Corinthians 2:1-2

Question: Paul came into this city preaching the gospel. He didn't come speaking like wise professors of the day with big words and complicated phrases. He preached the truth, and let God do the work. How does this change the way you should talk about Jesus with people? Do you have to be super smart?

# August 21st: 1 Corinthians 3

Re-read 1 Corinthians 3:6-7

Question: Some people in the church of Corinth were not unified because they would claim to follow different people. Paul points out that both him and Apollos want the focus not to be on themselves but on God! How does knowing "God gives the growth" encourage you to share Gods message? How can you be more unified with other Christians?

## August 22<sup>nd</sup>: 1 Corinthians 4

Re-read 1 Corinthians 4:2

Question: As stewards of the gospel, Paul wants to be someone who is found living faithfully for the Lord. We need to put aside temptations and distractions and keep our focus on obeying the Lord. What does it mean to be a "steward of the gospel"? How can you be more faithful to obey God?

## August 23rd: 1 Corinthians 5

#### Re-read 1 Corinthians 5:13

Question: Throughout this chapter, it is clear, God hates sin. The last people who should sin are the people in the church! This verse summarizes a section that reminds us that God will judge the people outside the church for their sin. Our job is to keep sin from getting into the church. The first step of doing that keeping sin from your own heart. What types of sin are you fighting against? How can you beat it?

## August 24th: 1 Corinthians 6

Re-read 1 Corinthians 6:12

Question: As Paul continues to talk about sin in the lives of people in the church, he makes an odd statement. He basically is telling them: I am allowed to do a lot of things, but not all of them are good for me. For you, this might mean that you are allowed to watch bad movies, but you know deep down that it isn't good for you. What are some other situations that you need to avoid, even if it seems like you could get away with it?

## August 25th: 1 Corinthians 7:1-24

Re-read 1 Corinthians 7:17

Question: Paul calls people in different stages of life to live their lives for the glory of God. He is saying that no matter if a person is single, married, a bondservant, or a free person that they should live their life for God. What does it look like for you as an EDGE student to live for God? How can you do a better job at honoring God with your life?

## August 26th: 1 Corinthians 7:25-40

Re-read 1 Corinthians 7:35

Question: Paul continues his point from yesterday's reading about wanting the people in Corinth to live lives wholly devoted to the Lord. He wants us to make sure there are no distractions in the way! What distracts you from fully obeying God? How can you put away those distractions and keep your focus on God?

# August 27th: 1 Corinthians 8

Re-read 1 Corinthians 8:13

Question: There was a debate as to whether it was okay to eat food offered to idols. Paul makes it clear that it is okay to eat it because idols are not real. However, he says that he is willing not to eat meat offered to idols if it was to cause someone else to stumble. We should be willing to not do things that we are able to do if it may cause someone else to sin. Why should we be willing to give up things for others? How can you push your friends to godliness rather than sin?

# August 28th: 1 Corinthians 9

Re-read 1 Corinthians 9:25-27

Question: It's not only Paul's responsibility to keep his life under control, it is ours as well. We need to practice self-control! Paul compares the self-control a Christian needs to the self-control an athlete needs. Runners don't eat cake and donuts to run fast! In the same way, we need to say "no" to things that we want in order to please God. What do you have to say "no" to today?

## August 29th: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Re-read 1 Corinthians 10:13

Question: God is faithful to provide a way for us to escape every temptation that we face. The decision we have to make is to choose the way of escape rather than give in to temptation. What temptations are you going to face today? What are you going to choose to do rather than give into that sin?

# August 30th: 1 Corinthians 10:14-33

Re-read 1 Corinthians 10:31

Question: We need to have the mindset that in all that we do it will be for Gods glory. Whether it is doing our homework, hanging with friends, or eating with our family it is all to be done for Gods glory. What are some things you will do today? How will you be mindful to do it for the glory of God?

## August 31st: 1 Corinthians 11:1-15

Re-read 1 Corinthians 11:1

Question: Everyone needs examples to follow if they want to do something right. You wouldn't be a very good artist, athlete, or student if you did not have instruction. Paul provides these people (and us) with instruction on how to live our lives like God wants us to. Paul wasn't perfect, but he set a good example for people to follow. Whose example are you following? What kind of example are YOU setting for others?

## September 1st: 1 Corinthians 11:16-34

### Re-read 1 Corinthians 11:32

Question: God disciplines those he loves. He disciplines us so that we turn from our wrongdoing and rather do what is right. He does not want us to continue in our evil ways but to repent of our sin. Why is God loving when he disciplines us? What sin do you need to repent of right now? How are you going to resist that sin in the future?

# September 2<sup>nd</sup>: 1 Corinthians 12

Re-read 1 Corinthians 12:21

Question: Paul compares the roles that different people play in the church to our bodies. Each person in the church is valuable and necessary just as each part of the body is valuable and necessary. What are some of the different places people serve in the church? Why are all serving positions important? Where can you serve in the church?

# September 3<sup>rd</sup>: 1 Corinthians 13

Re-read 1 Corinthians 13:1

Question: We can do lots of good things but if they are not done out of love then it not good. It is like a noisy gong or cymbal. We need to make sure that the good things we do are done out of a love for God and others. What are some good things you do? What is your motivation to do those things? How can you make sure to do them out of love?

# September 4th: 1 Corinthians 14:1-20

Re-read 1 Corinthians 14:20

Question: In chapter 14, Paul talks about the gift of "tongues". In the first century, when the apostles still lived, many Christians had a gift of God to be able to speak in languages they had never studied. Today, we don't have this gift. Paul wants the church to grow up in their thinking and be innocent when it comes to evil. He wants them to have experience learning truth and doing the right thing, and no experience doing the wrong thing. How can you become more grown up (mature) in your thinking?

# September 5<sup>th</sup>: 1 Corinthians 14:21-40

Re-read 1 Corinthians 14:26

Question: Each person in the church is an important member and needs to aim to build up the church as a whole. People are so quick to make fun of and tear others down when as Christian's we need to aim to build others up. How can you STOP tearing others down? How can you START building others up?

## September 6<sup>th</sup>: 1 Corinthians 15:1-32

Re-read 1 Corinthians 15:19

Question: There were people who were spreading the idea that the resurrection didn't happen. Paul says that if Jesus did not rise from the dead then we have no hope and people should feel sorry for us. However, Christ has in FACT risen from the dead, so we have hope! Why is it so important that Jesus rose from the dead? What does it mean for us?

# September 7<sup>th</sup>: 1 Corinthians 15:33-58

### Re-read 1 Corinthians 15:58

Question: The result of having victory over sin and death in Christ should be to do what verse 58 says. We are to be "steadfast" and "immovable" in obeying Gods Word knowing that our work is NEVER for no reason! What are the things you should be doing for God? How does knowing God sees that hard work encourage you to keep going?

# September 8<sup>th</sup>: 1 Corinthians 16

Re-read 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Question: At the end of Paul's first letter to the church of Corinth he gives the command to stand firm for the gospel and to be strong. He couples that command with one to do all things in love. These two things go hand in hand, and we need to do both. How can you balance standing up for the truth but also acting in love?

## September 9th: 2 Corinthians 1

Re-read 2 Corinthians 1:5

Question: Paul begins his second letter to the church in Corinth talking about comfort in times of suffering. Remember, the church in the first century faced "life or death" persecution. Paul does not promise that persecution will be easy, he of all people knows that it is hard! However, he reminds them that if they suffer with Christ for his sake, they will be comforted by him! How amazing is that?! How does this change your perspective on going through hard times?

### September 10th: 2 Corinthians 2

### Re-read 2 Corinthians 2:15-16

Question: As Christians we spread the "fragrance of Christ" to the world. To other Christian's it excites them and draws them closer (like the smell of bacon), but to the non-Christian it bothers them, and they stay away (like the smell of trash). The way that we live for Christ will draw other Christian's closer to us and will cause non-Christians to want to stay away from us. What is the right way to respond to people who don't like how you obey Gods Word? What is the wrong way to respond? How can you continue to obey the Bible even when people don't like it?

# September 11th: 2 Corinthians 3

Re-read 2 Corinthians 3:14

Question: There are people who are blinded to the truth of Christ, who he is, and what he has done for us. They ignore him and don't see him as the rightful Savior who came to save the world. Only Christ can make those people's eyes opened to the truth and turn to him. Who are some people that you know are not right with God? Spend some time praying for God to open their eyes to the truth!

### September 12th: 2 Corinthians 4

Re-read 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

Question: Paul says that the suffering we go through as Christian's is light and momentary when we compare it to the eternal glory of heaven. Christians should set their focus on heaven to help them endure the pain they go through in this life. What suffering have Christians endured over time? Why does focusing on heaven help us to endure? How can you think about heaven more?

### September 13th: 2 Corinthians 5

### Re-read 2 Corinthians 5:17

Question: Those who have "put to death" their old self and are made alive through Christ are new creations. They no longer give in to all the sin they once did, but their heart is transformed into wanting to do what pleases and honors God! How is someone made a new creation? What changes about that person? Have you been made alive by Christ?

### September 14th: 2 Corinthians 6

Re-read 2 Corinthians 6:14

Question: Christian's closest relationships should be with Christians. This does not mean we are mean to non-Christian's or that we don't care about them, but our closest friends should not be non-Christian's. We need to have like-minded Christians as close friends because we have the most important similarity which faith in Jesus Christ. Why are Christian friends so important? What kind of friends do you have?

### September 15<sup>th</sup>: 2 Corinthians 7

Re-read 2 Corinthians 7:10

Question: Paul makes a distinction here between godly grief and worldly grief. Worldly grief is when someone feels bad about their sin for a little bit, but then they continue to keep on doing it. Godly grief is feeling so bad about your sin that you repent (turn from it) and no longer do that sin but now do what God wants instead. In your own words, how would you explain the difference between godly grief and worldly grief? When you sin do you repent of it or just feel bad for a little while? How can you be quick to repent when you sin?

## September 16th: 2 Corinthians 8

### Re-read 2 Corinthians 8:9

Question: The churches in Macedonia had been sacrificially giving to others. Christ demonstrated the ultimate example of sacrificially giving by putting on human flesh and dying on the cross for us. Why was what Christ did so sacrificial? How can you sacrificially give of your money, time, and energy to others?

# September 17th: 2 Corinthians 9

Re-read 2 Corinthians 9:7

Question: God is not pleased when we give to others merely because we feel "obligated", but he wants us to give joyfully. He doesn't want us to be scared to give because God knows what we need, and he will provide for those who are generous with what they have been given. Ultimately, who has given us all that we have? Why should that change how we think about being generous with "our stuff"? How will you give of what you have for God and others?

### September 18th: 2 Corinthians 10

Re-read 2 Corinthians 10:17

Question: Paul is bold with the gospel and spreading it as far as he can, but he recognizes that the fruitfulness of his ministry is solely up to the Lord. He does not boast in himself for spreading the gospel, but his boast is in God who is using him to do what He wants! Are you quick to take praise for yourself or to give it to God? How can you use your influence to point others to God?

# September 19<sup>th</sup>: 2 Corinthians 11:1-15

Re-read 2 Corinthians 11:4

Question: Paul calls out the Corinthians for being accepting of people who proclaim another Jesus and a false gospel. We need to hold fast to the truth in God's Word and combat those who try to point to another Jesus or another way to be saved! What are some false gospels that are pushed today? Why are they wrong? How can you speak up for the Truth?

## September 20th: 2 Corinthians 11:16-33

Re-read 2 Corinthians 11:24-27

Question: Paul endured through lots of difficult things for the sake of Christ. He was willing to be beaten, in pain, and in danger to continue to share the gospel and stand for Christ! Why was Paul willing to go through all of this? Have you lost friends or gone through tough times for standing with Christ? Why is it all worth it?

### September 21st: 2 Corinthians 12

Re-read 2 Corinthians 12:10

Question: Paul is content with the difficulties that he goes through. He knows that in times of weakness it reminds him to rely on the strength of God all the more! Why is it hard to be content in tough times? How can you be more content with what God has given you?

## September 22<sup>nd</sup>: 2 Corinthians 13

### Re-read 2 Corinthians 13:5

Question: We are to examine our lives often to see whether they reflect a life that is following God or not. We need to "test ourselves" by looking at the way we live and seeing if it demonstrates a life changed by God. Examine your own life. Does it reflect a life of sin or godliness? Does it reflect a life that is living for God or living for yourself?

# September 23<sup>rd</sup>: Galatians 1

Re-read Galatians 1:8-9

Question: Paul starts out this letter very strongly in saying that if someone is preaching a different gospel or way to be saved, they deserve to go to hell. False gospels deceive others so if someone is spreading a way to be saved that is different than Jesus it is a lie and that person deserves severe punishment! Why is spreading a false gospel so evil? What is the true gospel? How can you share that with a friend at school?

## September 24th: Galatians 2

Re-read Galatians 2:20

Question: Those who have been saved by Christ have stopped living their old life (full of sin) and now live a new life of obedience through Jesus! Christians continually fight their sin because Christ gave his life for us! What sins do you see in your life? How can you better fight those sins?

## September 25<sup>th</sup>: Galatians 3

### Re-read Galatians 3:28

Question: Those of us who are Christians are united under Christ. People like to make distinctions between people but as believers we are not to be divided but rather united in Christ. What does it look like to live in unity with other Christians? How can you be more united with others at church?

# September 26th: Galatians 4

Re-read Galatians 4:7

Question: Non-Christians are enslaved to sin which means they have to give in to those sinful desires, but when God transforms your heart, he gives you new motives to live for him. As a result, you become a child of God and, like an heir, receive the blessings of being his child – eternal life in heaven! What does it mean to be a "slave to sin"? What does it mean to be a "child of God"? How does one go from being a slave to sin to a child of God?

### September 27<sup>th</sup>: Galatians 5

Re-read Galatians 5:22-23

Question: When we become Christians the Holy Spirit dwells within us and grows this "fruit" in our lives. We are called to put off our old sinful self and now to be characterized by these qualities. Which of these "fruit" do you need to grow in? How will you do that?

# September 28th: Galatians 6

Re-read Galatians 6:1

Question: When we see someone in sin, we should correct them and restore them to doing the right thing. We shouldn't be rude or obnoxious about it, but rather kind in bringing them back to obedience. How can you lovingly correct a friend in sin? What is a wrong way to do it?

# September 29th: Ephesians 1

Re-read Ephesians 1:16

Question: Paul is thankful for the love the Ephesians are showing toward other Christians and he remembers them in his prayers. He cares about them, so he prays for them. Who are some people you know that need prayer? Spend 5 minutes praying for those people!

# September 30<sup>th</sup>: Ephesians 2

Re-read Ephesians 2:8-9

Question: Salvation is not something earned by us doing good deeds, but it is a gift of God. As a result, we don't boast in ourselves, but our boast is in the Lord and his grace! Why does God get the glory when we are saved? How can you live a humble life in response?

## October 1st: Ephesians 3

Re-read Ephesians 3:20-21

Question: God is able to do way bigger things than we can ask or imagine! He is omnipotent (all powerful) and is deserving of all glory! What are some amazing things God has done? How can you bring him glory today?

# October 2<sup>nd</sup>: Ephesians 4

Re-read Ephesians 4:31-32

Question: Christians live new lives that no longer do their old sinful habits and now honor God! We are not to be angry or bitter towards others but rather be kind and forgiving to those who wrong us. Has someone sinned against you this week? How? Have you forgiven them?

# October 3<sup>rd</sup>: Ephesians 5

Re-read Ephesians 5:15-16

Question: We need to make sure we are using our time to obey God the best we can! We need to be careful how we spend our time so that it is glorifying to God. How do you spend your time? Would God be honored by it? How can you better use the free time you have?

# October 4<sup>th</sup>: Ephesians 6

Re-read Ephesians 6:1

Question: This is sometimes a difficult command to obey! However, we need to obey our parents and do it with a good attitude. When it is hard for you to obey your parents? How can you obey joyfully next time?

# October 5<sup>th</sup>: Philippians 1

Re-read Philippians 1:21

Question: Paul is writing this letter in jail and he knows he would rather be with the Lord in heaven, but as he is still on the earth his focus is to live for Christ! Every moment of his life is dedicated to obeying God and telling others about Jesus! How do you spend your time? Would your life be described as "for Christ" or "for yourself"? How can you live for Jesus better?

# October 6th: Philippians 2

Re-read Philippians 2:14

Question: It is easy to complain about things...school, chores, etc. However, we need to be people who are not complainers but rather thankful for all God has given us. What do you complain about? How can you rather be thankful for what God has provided?

# October 7th: Philippians 3

# Re-read Philippians 3:17

Question: As we live obediently to God we can look to godly examples in the Bible and in our lives and copy how they lived! There is much to be learned from someone who is living a God-honoring life! Who is a Christian in your life that you should imitate? What can you learn from their example?

## October 8th: Philippians 4

Re-read Philippians 4:8

Question: Gods Word tells us to think about things that are good! We can fill our minds with lots of sinful entertainment (movies, TV shows, music, etc.) but we need to fill it with godly things. What are some bad things filling your mind? How can you rather think about good and godly things?

# October 9th: Colossians 1

Re-read Colossians 1:10

Question: We need to make sure our lives are fully pleasing to God! We should aim to grow in knowledge and obedience to His Word! How have you grown in your knowledge of God? How can you grow in your obedience to God?

# October 10th: Colossians 2

Re-read Colossians 2:6-7

Question: We need to be thankful for all that God has done for us! We also need to express that gratitude to God and to those who provide for us! What are you thankful for? How can you show your gratitude to God?

# October 11th: Colossians 3

Re-read Colossians 3:23-24

Question: We all have different tasks that we have to do but we need to make sure we are doing it well! We need to turn in our work as if we are giving it to God. What homework/chores do you have? How well do you do those tasks? How can you do them without complaining?

# October 12th: Colossians 4

Re-read Colossians 4:3-4

Question: We need to pray for the gospel to be spread not just where we live but all across the globe! Who is a missionary that you can pray for? Spend 5 minutes praying for missionaries sharing the gospel across the world!

# October 13th: 1 Thessalonians 1

### Re-read 1 Thessalonians 1:8

Question: The Thessalonians had been living obediently to God so much so that word has spread about it to the surrounding areas. How are you doing in obeying God? Have you been living to point others to Jesus? How can you do that better?

## October 14th: 1 Thessalonians 2

Re-read 1 Thessalonians 2:12

Question: God makes it clear that he wants people to work together to be godly. Are your friends a good influence? Do they push you to love God more? How can you encourage your friends this week to be more like God?

# October 15th: 1 Thessalonians 3

Re-read 1 Thessalonians 3:9

Question: Paul is thanking God for the encouraging report brought to him from Timothy about how the Thessalonians were living. We can be an encouragement to others through living obedient lives to God. Are you living an obedient life? How can you encourage your friends to be doing the right thing?

# October 16th: 1 Thessalonians 4

### Re-read 1 Thessalonians 4:9-11

Question: The Thessalonians were being loving towards others, but Paul encourages them to keep it up! We need to show love toward others even when it is difficult! How are you doing at showing love to your siblings? How can you do a better job at that?

## October 17th: 1 Thessalonians 5

Re-read 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Question: It is easy to forget all the good things that God has given us. Living in Orange County we can take for granted even the basic necessities that God continues to provide for us. What are some things in your life that you take for granted? How can you be more thankful for all God has given you?

# October 18th: 2 Thessalonians 1

Re-read 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

Question: Every Christian needs to resolve to obey God and live for his glory. We need to be praying as well for other Christians to do the same. Are you obeying God and living for his glory? What does that look like? Who can you pray for others to do the same?

## October 19th: 2 Thessalonians 2

### Re-read 2 Thessalonians 2:15

Question: There will always be pressure by the world to disobey God, but we need to stand firm in His Word! What are some temptations to obey God that you face? How can you stay connected to Gods Word even when it is difficult?

## October 20th: 2 Thessalonians 3

Re-read 2 Thessalonians 3:10

Question: Paul shockingly says that if we are unwilling to do work we don't deserve to eat. God wants us to be good workers and not to be lazy. Are you a hard worker? Do you do your best at school, chores, etc.? How can you work better than you have before?

# October 21st: 1 Timothy 1

Re-read 1 Timothy 1:15

Question: Jesus came into the world to save sinners! Paul recognizes how sinful he is and how it is through Jesus alone that he is saved! Why do we need to recognize we are sinful as Paul did? What about those who don't think they need Jesus?

# October 22<sup>nd</sup>: 1 Timothy 2

Re-read 1 Timothy 2:8

Question: The importance of prayer is shown here and throughout Scripture. We need to be reliant upon God through prayer! How often do you pray? How can you pray better? Spend some time to pray for your family!

# October 23rd: 1 Timothy 3

Re-read 1 Timothy 3:15

Question: The church is called a "pillar and buttress of truth" (it is the place where truth about God is preached). The church should be talking about truth! When you are here at church, you hear many things about God. What is something about God you heard at church recently that you had never thought about? How does this change your view of God?

# October 24th: 1 Timothy 4

Re-read 1 Timothy 4:12

Question: Young Christians can set a good example for older Christians. You can set the example by speaking good words, obeying Gods Word, fighting sin, and loving others! How are you doing at controlling your words? Do you say uplifting or discouraging words? How can you better use your words to build up those at school?

# October 25th: 1 Timothy 5

# Re-read 1 Timothy 5:8

Question: Christians are to care and provide for their family! Jesus demonstrated real love to us, so we need to show that same love to others! How can you show love to your parents this week? Your siblings? Friends at church?

# October 26th: 1 Timothy 6

Re-read 1 Timothy 6:8

Question: Paul understands what it's like to have a lot and a little. He is able to be content in whatever circumstance because he is right with God. We need to learn from his example and not be quick to complain or grumble! What things cause you to complain? Why should you not complain about that? How can you be more thankful to God for what he has given you?

# October 27th: 2 Timothy 1

Re-read 2 Timothy 1:13

Question: Paul provided Timothy with an excellent example of what it looks like to be a godly man and leader! Who are some godly people in your life? Do you listen to them? How can you be more like them?

# October 28th: 2 Timothy 2

Re-read 2 Timothy 2:16

Question: Our words are important. We can either use them for foolishness or godliness. We need to keep our speech clean and honoring to God and not let it lead to unwholesome talk! What do you talk about with your friends at school? How can you talk about more godly things?

# October 29th: 2 Timothy 3

Re-read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Question: Gods Word is ESSENTIAL! We can use it to encourage, teach, and correct others! The only way we can use it is if we are reading and studying it consistently! How often do you read Gods Word? How can you use the Bible to encourage someone today?

# October 30th: 2 Timothy 4

Re-read 2 Timothy 4:7

Question: The Christian life can sometimes feel like a battle. We are called to fight sin every day and to obey Gods Word! Paul looks at his life and he can see that he has done a good job of doing that! How have you been at fighting sin? What temptations do you face? How can you fight them better than you have before?

# October 31st: Titus 1

### Re-read Titus 1:7-8

Question: This is a list of qualifications for those who work at the church but are good qualities for us to see if we have as well. The one I want us to focus on today is not being "quick-tempered" or easily angered! Are you someone who gets angry easily? What makes you upset? Why should we be slow to anger?

## November 1st: Titus 2

Re-read Titus 2:11-12

Question: It is by God's grace that we are saved! Therefore, we are able to say no to our sinful passions and the bad things God tells us not to do. What does it mean to have self-control? Do you have self-control? How can you show more restrain when tempted to sin?

# November 2<sup>nd</sup>: Titus 3

Re-read Titus 3:1-2

Question: Paul remind Titus in his letter to be submissive to the authorities in his life. We have authorities in our lives as well that we are to submit to and to not talk badly about. Who are some authorities in your life? How do you talk about them? How can you talk about your parents, teachers, and coaches in a good way?

## November 3<sup>rd</sup>: Philemon

### Re-read Philemon 21

Question: Paul is writing to Philemon asking him to show kindness to this fugitive slave named Onesimus. Paul has received comfort from Philemon in the past (v.7) and is confident he will show that same love toward Onesimus. Who do you need to be more welcoming to? How can you better show love to those that are "outsiders" at school and church?

## November 4th: Hebrews 1

Re-read Hebrews 1:3-4

Question: The book of Hebrews talks about how Jesus is God, and in these verses, he is said to be "the exact imprint of his nature". Jesus is completely, 100% God! What do you learn about the power of Jesus in these verses? Knowing Jesus' power, how should you respond to his commands?

## November 5<sup>th</sup>: Hebrews 2

Re-read Hebrews 2:17

Question: Yesterdays reading talked about the importance of Jesus being 100% God and today we see the necessity that he was 100% man. Jesus came down and put on flesh to be the propitiation(payment) for our sins! Why is it important that Jesus is 100% God and 100% man? Why can he be the perfect payment for our sins? What is the proper response to what Jesus has done?

## November 6th: Hebrews 3

### Re-read Hebrews 3:13

Question: The Jewish born again Christians receive this letter with a command to "exhort" each other. This means that they are supposed to encourage each other. This also means pointing out sin in others' lives in a loving way. How do you respond when people show you your wrong actions? How should you respond?

### November 7th: Hebrews 4

#### Re-read Hebrews 4:16

Question: Jesus endured through the same sinful temptations that you and I face; however, he never sinned a single time! We should go to God in prayer when we are tempted to be able to resist them! How often do you ask God to keep you from sin? How often do you pray to God when you are tempted? Remind yourself daily to pray to God when you are tempted to sin!

## November 8th: Hebrews 5

### Re-read Hebrews 5:14

Question: Paul calls out his readers for being immature in their faith. They should be able to put their knowledge of the Bible into practice, but their immaturity is hindering them from that. How is your knowledge of the Bible? Is it growing? How can you put Gods Word into practice in your life?

## November 9th: Hebrews 6

### Re-read Hebrews 6:10

Question: Two BIG things we learn about God in this verse! We learn that God is just and that he does not forget! When we do good things like serving, God does not forget that but will reward us not with earthly riches, but with heavenly rewards! Are you serving? Where are you serving? How can you serve better for the glory of God?

# November 10th: Hebrews 7

Re-read Hebrews 7:26-27

Question: In the Old Testament, the priests had to offer sacrifices for themselves before they could offer them for the people because they were sinful. However, Jesus never sinned once, so he didn't have to offer sacrifices but was able to be the sacrifice for our sin! Why did Jesus have to die on the cross? How often do you thank God for what Jesus did? Spend some time thanking God for sending Christ to be the sacrifice for our sins!

## November 11th: Hebrews 8

Re-read Hebrews 8:1

Question: Our "high priest" is Jesus. He is more than just a priest, he is God. He is the one who makes it possible for us to have a relationship with God. Why does knowing that Jesus is the all-powerful God give us confidence in his work for us?

## November 12th: Hebrews 9

Re-read Hebrews 9:28

Question: Jesus came the first time to solve our sin problem by dying on the cross and rising again. However, he is going to return a second time to save those who are waiting for him! What do you want to be found doing when Jesus returns? How can you live each day like it is the day Jesus is coming back?

## November 13th: Hebrews 10:1-23

Re-read Hebrews 10:23

Question: God keeps his promises! Those who put their trust in God have no need to doubt or question God but can trust him knowing he does what he says! How has God shown himself to be trustworthy? Are you someone who is trustworthy? How can you follow through when you say you will do something?

## November 14th: Hebrews 10:24-39

Re-read Hebrews 10:24-25

Question: Christians need to come together and push each other to obey God. Many people in the world will push us to do the wrong thing so we need to surround ourselves with Christians who will encourage us to do the right thing! Who are your closest friends? Do they encourage you to do the right or wrong thing? Do you encourage them to obey God?

## November 15th: Hebrews 11:1-19

Re-read Hebrews 11:17-19

Question: In this chapter we read of many people who lived a life of trusting God! Abraham, for example, obeyed God by being willing to sacrifice Isaac even when he did not want to. He trusted God and obeyed regardless! Today, you can obey God by obeying our parents. How are you doing at obeying your parents? Would God be pleased by your obedience?

## November 16th: Hebrews 11:20-40

Re-read Hebrews 11:32

Question: Todays reading builds off of yesterdays in listing more people who lived a life of faith that we should emulate! Pick someone from the list of names in today's reading...how did they trust God in their lives? What can you learn from their example?

## November 17th: Hebrews 12

Re-read Hebrews 12:1

Question: Yesterday we read of people who obeyed God well and who said no to sin. Similarly, we also face temptations every day that we need to turn from and resist! What sins will you face today? How can you resist those sins and rather obey God?

## November 18th: Hebrews 13

Re-read Hebrews 13:17

Question: We are commanded by God to obey our leaders! This verse is talking specifically about the pastors and the leaders at church! They want us to obey God so we should listen to them and be a joy to them! Are you a joy to your leaders in EDGE? Do you listen to your small group leaders? How can you better obey this command from God?

## November 19th: James 1

Re-read James 1:22

Question: God has given us his direction and commands for us in the Bible! We are to not only to listen and read it but apply it to our lives! What have you been learning from the EDGE Friday and weekend lessons? What do you need to DO as a result of it?

## November 20th: James 2

Re-read James 2:8-9

Question: We are not to show partiality(favoritism) toward one person over another. We should treat others as we would want to be treated. How do you treat others at school? Are you kind to those who are "outsiders" at school? How can you better show kindness to your classmates?

### November 21st: James 3

Re-read James 3:4-6

Question: The tongue here is compared to a ship's rudder and a fire because of how powerful our words can be! We can either use our words for good things or they can cause big problems! Do you use your words to tear down & make fun of others or to build others up? How can you be more careful of what you say this week?

# November 22<sup>nd</sup>: James 4

Re-read James 4:17

Question: This verse shows us that sin is not just doing what God doesn't want, but it is not doing what God wants! What are some things that God wants us to do? Are you doing all of those things? How can you do a better job of obeying Gods commands?

### November 23rd: James 5

Re-read James 5:17-18

Question: Elijah prayed urgently and often for there not to be rain and it did not rain for three and a half years! Think about that.... prayer is powerful! However, we often don't pray as often as we should! How often do you pray? When can you pray more? What should you pray for?

### November 24th: 1 Peter 1

Re-read 1 Peter 1:15-16

Question: The word "holy" means to be set apart or different. Christians are to be different than the rest of the world because we obey God and His Word. How are you doing at obeying the Bible? How are you failing? How can you live a more "holy" life?

### November 25th: 1 Peter 2

Re-read 1 Peter 2:21

Question: As Christians there will be pushback when we try to share the gospel. However, we must continue to do the right thing even when there is pushback. We can look to Jesus as the perfect example who did not sin even through the suffering he went through. What pushback did Christians go through after the time of Jesus? What pushback do Christians have today? How can we continue to share the gospel despite pushback?

### November 26th: 1 Peter 3

Re-read 1 Peter 3:9

Question: When people do mean things to us, we should continue to be kind rather than try to get revenge. We should let God repay others rather than take it into our own hands. How have others wronged you? Did you respond rightly or not? How can you continue to do good to others even when they wrong you?

# November 27th: 1 Peter 4

#### Re-read 1 Peter 4:10

Question: Christians have been given gifts by God to serve the church. Every Christian needs to serve in the church! Are you serving at the church? Where can you serve? What kind of attitude should you have while serving?

# November 28th: 1 Peter 5

Re-read 1 Peter 5:6-7

Question: It is easy to be worried about different things, but we should pray to God and give those worries to him. We can trust that God is in control, so we don't have to worry. Why is being anxious a sin? What do you worry about? How can you trust God instead?

# November 29th: 2 Peter 1

Re-read 2 Peter 1:21

Question: The Bible is God's Word. It is not just one man's opinion, but Gods direct commands given to us today. Why should we trust the Bible? Why should we listen to what it says? Do you obey God's commands in Scripture?

### November 30th: 2 Peter 2

Re-read 2 Peter 2:1

Question: There are people who preach false things about God and saying there are other ways to be saved. They are evil and will lead many people to hell. What are some false things people say today about God? Knowing this, why is it so important to read Gods Word?

### December 1st: 2 Peter 3

Re-read 2 Peter 3:10

Question: When Christ returns a second time he will come when no one expects it (like a thief in the night). We need to live every day like Christ is going to return because he could return at any moment. How does it make you feel knowing Christ can return at any moment? Have you lived last week in a way that has honored God? How can you live this week in a way that is?

### December 2<sup>nd</sup>: 1 John 1

Re-read 1 John 1:9

Question: We are all sinful humans who deserve punishment from God for those sins. However, God is gracious that if we confess our sins to God, he will forgive us! How have you sinned the past day? Spend some time repenting of that sin to God right now!

# December 3<sup>rd</sup>: 1 John 2

Re-read 1 John 2:15-17

Question: This section talks about "the world". You probably know that the earth is full of sin. People, because of their sin, don't want to obey God. What sin are you tempted by the most in your life? How can you choose obedience to God instead?

# December 4th: 1 John 3

Re-read 1 John 3:18

Question: It is easy for people to say that they love others, but true love is shown through action and not just words! How can you show genuine love to your parents today? Siblings? Others around you?

### December 5<sup>th</sup>: 1 John 4

Re-read 1 John 4:10-11

Question: God demonstrated his love for us by sending Jesus to be the Savior of the world. For those of us who have put our trust in Jesus we should love others because of God's love for us. How can you show your love for God? Who do you need to show love to this week?

# December 6th: 1 John 5

Re-read 1 John 5:21

Question: There will be things that tempt us to prioritize them over God. Anything that we value and prioritize more than God is an idol. Is there anything that you prioritize over God and his Word? How can you remove those idols in your life?

# December 7<sup>th</sup>: 2 John

Re-read 2 John 1:6

Question: The apostle John writes to encourage a group of people to love each other in his second letter. Verse 6 tells us that we need to obey the commandments of God in order to love him. What are some commandments that are hard for you to obey? What would help you obey God more today?

### December 8th: 3 John

Re-read 3 John 1:9

Question: Paul writes his third letter thanking Gaius for showing kindness and hospitality to a group of missionaries and calling out Diotrephes for doing the opposite and putting himself first. In what ways do you like to put yourself first? How can you show care to others and not be solely concerned about yourself?

### December 9th: Jude

Re-read Jude 1:17

Question: All over the Bible we are reminded to think about the promises of God. Jude talks about people in the Old Testament who faced false teachers, like the ones of Jude's day. What are some things the Bible says about God that the world doesn't believe? Are there lies about God you hear at school, in movies/TV, or on your sports teams?

### December 10th: Revelation 1

Re-read Revelation 1:13-17

Question: The book of Revelation is a vision from Jesus that was given to the apostle John. John had seen Jesus as a human, but when he saw Jesus in all his glory, he was overwhelmed by his appearance. Revelation 1 describes what Jesus looks like today. How does this description change the way you think of Jesus?

### December 11th: Revelation 2

Re-read Revelation 2:29

Question: In chapters 2-3 there are directions given to seven churches and they all have this at the end of them. God wants them to listen to these commands and do what is said! What commands has God given us today? Are you listening to them? How can you better obey them?

# December 12th: Revelation 3

### Re-read Revelation 3:15-16

Question: Jesus has some harsh words for the Christians in Laodicea. Jesus wants them to be all in for him and not just partly obeying him! Are you completely obeying God with your life? In what ways do you need to obey better?

# December 13th: Revelation 4

Re-read Revelation 4:11

Question: God is so much greater than we are! We read about Jesus being rightly worshipped because he deserves it. What does it mean to worship something? What can you worship God for? How can you worship him today?

# December 14th: Revelation 5

Re-read Revelation 5:12

Question: At this point, all the creatures, angels, and people in heaven are praising Jesus! Why is he called the Lamb? What does it say Jesus did as the Lamb for all people? Why is this important for us?

# December 15th: Revelation 6

#### Re-read Revelation 6:17

Question: This chapter describes seven waves of punishments that God will inflict upon the earth. Verse 17 sums up the entire chapter. It also tells us something about Gods power. It asks a question: "Who can stand?" — when it comes to God, no one can stand against him. God hates sin and punishes it. Why must God punish us for our sin? What is the way for us to escape punishment for our sin?

### December 16th: Revelation 7

Re-read Revelation 7:16-17

Question: Heaven is going to be so AWESOME! No more will there be any pain or discomfort from sin, but we will be free to worship and serve God! What are some effects of sin shown in verse 16? What happens to those things in heaven?

# December 17th: Revelation 8

Re-read Revelation 8:13

Question: With all the judgment coming on the world, it will be a scary time for those in the end times. We must remember though that this judgment is because of sin and God is good to punish sin. What is sin? Why is it so bad? Why is it a good thing that God punishes sin?

# December 18th: Revelation 9

Re-read Revelation 9:20-21

Question: Even when there is judgment on the earth, people are stubborn. They want to live the way they want and don't want to repent of their sin. Why is it hard for people to give up doing things their way? What sin in your life is hard to give up? What steps can you take to get rid of that sin?

# December 19<sup>th</sup>: Revelation 10

Re-read Revelation 10:10

Question: God commands John to eat a scroll – an odd command that John obeys! We need to obey what God says even if we don't always understand why! What kind of commands have you been given that don't make sense? Why are they harder to obey?

### December 20th: Revelation 11

Re-read Revelation 11:17

Question: In this chapter along with the entire book of Revelation we see Gods incredible power on display! How has reading Revelation impacted your view of Gods power? How has it helped you think of God as greater than you did before?

### December 21st: Revelation 12

#### Re-read Revelation 12:11

Question: The key phrase in this verse describing followers of Jesus is that "they loved not their lives even unto death". Any person who is a follower of Christ ought to be willing to die for him. We need to be willing to do sacrificial things for Jesus! What are some things you can sacrifice today for other people because of your love for God?

### December 22<sup>nd</sup>: Revelation 13

Re-read Revelation 13:8

Question: Those who are non-christians are willing to worship things other than God! Christians recognize that God alone deserves our worship and giving it to anything else is idolatry. Idolatry is putting anything above God! What do you value more than God? Look at your free time – what do you spend most of it doing? What does that say about what you value?

### December 23<sup>rd</sup>: Revelation 14

Re-read Revelation 14:12

Question: Those who are genuine christians will endure even during difficult times. It is clear that the Christian life can be hard but those who follow God are willing to do hard things for him. What are some difficult things that God commands christians to do? Are you doing them?

# December 24<sup>th</sup>: Revelation 15

Re-read Revelation 15:3

Question: God deserves our worship! He deserves praise for who he is and what he has done! List some AMAZING things that God has done throughout Scripture! How can you remind yourself to praise God daily for what he has done?

### December 25th: Revelation 16

Re-read Revelation 16:7

Question: The judgment of God is great, but it is just! God is fair - he gives people what they deserve. Those who live in rebellion against God deserve to be punished as outlined in the Bible. What does it mean for God to be just? How is punishing sinful people just? How can someone not have to endure this punishment?

### December 26th: Revelation 17

Re-read Revelation 17:14

Question: The evil forces of the world are fighting against God in Revelation 17. The Lamb is Jesus. When they try to defeat Jesus and the church, he responds with force and wins. He wins because he has ultimate authority! How can you thank God today, knowing he is in control?

# December 27th: Revelation 18

#### Re-read Revelation 18:10

Question: In the Tribulation, there will be a city that is greater than any other city but also the most evil. In Revelation 18, God destroys it. It is called "Babylon" in this chapter (a reference to the Babylon from the Old Testament). The angels rejoice and the sinful people are very sad. God will not tolerate sin in the end. When we read this chapter, we should be reminded of our own sin. What sins do you commit often? How will you repent of them?

### December 28th: Revelation 19

Re-read Revelation 19:11-16

Question: Jesus is the one who rides on the white horse! He finally establishes his kingdom on earth in the next two chapters! He is called "faithful and true"! Why do you think Jesus is called these things? How is he faithful to us? How do you know that he spoke the truth?

### December 29th: Revelation 20

Re-read Revelation 20:15

Question: This is the end for those who never put their trust in Jesus! Those who repent and trust in Jesus spend eternity in heaven while those who don't spend it in hell. What a sad reality it is for those who don't trust in Jesus! How often do you think about what happens after you die? Why is it important to think about?

# December 30<sup>th</sup>: Revelation 21

Re-read Revelation 21:3-4

Question: God will make a new place called the New Jerusalem where God and his people will live forever! One really important thing about the New Jerusalem is that God will live there! He made people to be with him, and this finally happens here! This place is way different than the old earth. There will be no pain, sickness, or death! Does this get you excited about heaven? What can you do today to get ready to go to this place?

### December 31st: Revelation 22

Re-read Revelation 22:7

Question: Knowing a lot about God is awesome! But God wants us to know him AND obey him! After reading Revelation, what is the most interesting thing you have learned about God? How have you changed this year to be more like God? What do you want to do differently next year?