

Day 1

November 19



Pray | Praise God for his grace and mercy

ISAIAH LOOKED forward to a day when the glory of God would be experienced by his people in a new way.

We thank God for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and we are commissioned to spreading songs of his praise to all of the earth.



Read | Isaiah 12, Matthew 28:19-20



Reflect | Spend some time reflecting on the following questions.

If you are not someone who is comfortable with singing, what are some the ways in which you have proclaimed the glory of God to others? Are you considering any new or different ways of proclaiming God's glory?

Serving others is a way to demonstrate a response of gratitude to the gift of grace through Christ's death and resurrection. If you are a person who finds it difficult to step out in faith to serve or serving takes you out of your comfort zone, pray to God and seek through him what your spiritual gifts might be. Share your gifts with others.

Make a mental list of two or three of the most gracious and thankful people in your life. What do you think are some of their traits or experiences that make them the way they are? Spend time in prayer and ask to take on some of their best characteristics.

Day 2

November 20



Pray | For strength to proclaim God's glory to anyone

GOD CALLS his people to proclaim his glory, grace, and mercy to all nations.

The phrase “all nations” is used often in the Bible. What does God *really* mean he says, “all nations?” Who is good enough to come before God?



Read | Isaiah 12:3-4; Jonah 3



Reflect | Spend some time reflecting on the following questions.

Sometimes it is said that followers of Christ get caught up in their “Christian bubble.” While it is extremely important to surround yourself with other believers, it’s also important to insert yourself outside of your comfortable surroundings and proclaim Christ to those who may not know him outside of you! How can you step out of your Christian bubble today?

When we find that a person or a group of people has committed an evil act, it is easy to dismiss them as cast out by God. Even the worst of people, by human standards, can repent and come to Christ. The Ninevites in today’s verses from the book of Jonah were a people that Jonah was reluctant to tell about God because they were so despicable. Are there any people in your life that are like the Ninevites? How can you seek God’s help in bolstering the courage to proclaim his glorious name to them?

When we dismiss or cast out people whom we may consider “evil-doers,” we put limits on God’s capabilities and his grace. Why is it important to remember that God has no limits? What are some ways in which you can make God limitless to yourself and others?

Day 3

November 21



Pray | To do God's work as an example for others

DON'T STOP doing God's work when you leave weekend church services.

It's not uncommon to hear in a sermon at Five Oaks about the importance of experiencing God's glory while we are both "gathered" and "scattered." The scattered part comes when we enter our workplaces, schools, and community groups throughout the "rest of the week."



Read | Isaiah 12:4-6; Mark 7:14-23



Reflect | Spend some time reflecting on the following questions.

What does the "rest of your week" look like outside the church building?
What are some ways in which you can be an example of Christ, or put another way, a light to others outside of the church?

If you consider yourself a follower of Christ, what do your deeds, words, actions, courtesy, and service tell others about your relationship with Christ?
Would others know that you have a relationship with Christ without you explicitly telling them?

If you are a college or high school student, what are some ways in which you can be a classmate, teammate, fellow club member, leader, or friend who proclaims the grace and truth of Jesus Christ?

Day 4
November 22



Pray | For the strength to disciple others gracefully

THERE WAS a time, soon after the ascension of Jesus, when his disciples often disagreed on who was deserving to receive Christ, or if gentiles had to become Jewish in order to receive Christ.

The truth is that no one is deserving to receive Christ. God loves everyone and there is a place in his kingdom for all who open their hearts to his grace. God gave us Christ even though we don't deserve his salvation



Read | Acts 11:1-18; Romans 3:23



Reflect | Spend some time reflecting on the following questions.

If you are someone who considers yourself far from God, or even an enemy of God, it's time to pray to God, ask him to forgive your sins, repent of them, and turn your salvation completely into the hands of Jesus Christ. Keep in mind, we *all* fall short of God's glory, even the most "seasoned" believers.

Telling others the story of your faith journey can be powerful. Some may be quick to dismiss the impact of their story because their past is too full of regret, or their past not regrettable or dramatic enough. Let the Holy Spirit lead to you to allow yourself to be real, vulnerable, and truthful. Take time this week to tell someone the story of your faith journey.

Day 5

November 23



Pray | Give thanks and praise to God!

PEOPLE OFTEN pray to God because of a need or to help them through a difficult time. God encourages us to pray to him in everything.

Sometimes we miss the mark in prayer, only concentrating on our own needs. Have you ever spent a full five minutes or even ten minutes in prayer, for the sole purpose of giving praise to God?



Read | Psalm 150



Reflect | Spend some time reflecting on the following questions.

Take time in prayer today praising God for keeping all his promises and covenants. Thank him for his promises yet to be fulfilled. Try to block out distractions of this world and focus on God's almighty power.

If you have taken the time today to spend time in prayer and thank God, consider telling someone in your life what you said to God in your prayer. Spread the splendor of God's awesome power to others in your life.

Do something kind for someone today, even if it's just a small favor. Be bold enough to tell them you are being kind because Jesus Christ saved you. Ephesians 4:32 says, "Be kind and compassionate toward one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

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