

MARCH 22 - 28, 2020

A LIFE OF FAITH

Daily Worship Guide

HEARTS JOINED IN WORSHIP

This guide was prayerfully designed to help you continue to grow daily in your knowledge and love of God, as well as stay connected with your brothers and sisters in Christ during this time of separation.

Inspired by Daniel, he and his fellow Jews were isolated from every external thing that represented their faith - the temple, the sacrifices, the Torah, everything that defined their identity. Yet we read that Daniel not only stayed true and steadfast to God and who he was through his worship in isolation, but he changed the world around him. We have that opportunity today.

Each day contains Scripture readings from the Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs, to give you a big-picture snapshot of God's character and love for His people throughout the whole Bible.

You'll also find Praise and Prayer prompts where you can choose a hymn, devotional song, or contemporary song to sing to the Lord. You can use the prayer prompt to pray for the specific area of focus that day.

These are suggestions to help you get going, but not rigid rules. The daily worship time is designed to be about 15 minutes long, but you can feel free to add to it! Sing a couple songs or spend more time in prayer.

Finally, we hope that you will share your experiences with one another. We have such an amazing opportunity to share what God is doing in our lives and encourage one another. Sharing how God is working through you, builds up the body of Christ and makes us all stronger in our faith.

Post your thoughts, stories, or videos on the Circle Family Facebook Group or email them to Thomas to be included in our weekly emails.

Grace and Peace,

Circle Church of Christ

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TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2020

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 3:1-24

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” 2 The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

4 “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. 5 “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” 6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. 8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?” 10 He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.” 11 And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” 12 The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” 13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” 14 So the Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, ‘Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.’” 16 To the woman he said, “I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.” 17 To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’ ‘Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. 19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken;

for dust you are and to dust you will return.” 20 Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living. 21 The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. 22 And the Lord God said, “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever.” 23 So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. 24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

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NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 3:1-17

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea 2 and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” 3 This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’ 4 John’s clothes were made of camel’s hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. 5 People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.

6 Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. 9 And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. 10 The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. 11 “I baptize you with[b] water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with[c] the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” The Baptism of Jesus 13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. 14 But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” 15 Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented. 16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

PSALMS

Psalms 3:1-8

Lord, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me! 2 Many are saying of me, “God will not deliver him.” 3 But you, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. 4 I call out to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy mountain. 5 I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me. 6 I will not fear though tens of thousands assail me on every side. 7 Arise, Lord! Deliver me, my God! Strike all my enemies on the jaw; break the teeth of the wicked. 8 From the Lord comes deliverance. May your blessing be on your people.

PROVERBS

Proverbs 1:10-19

My son, if sinful men entice you, do not give in to them. 11 If they say, “Come along with us; let’s lie in wait for innocent blood, let’s ambush some harmless soul; 12 let’s swallow them alive, like the grave, and whole, like those who go down to the pit; 13 we will get all sorts of valuable things and fill our houses with plunder; 14 cast lots with us; we will all share the loot”—15 my son, do not go along with them, do not set foot on their paths; 16 for their feet rush into evil, they are swift to shed blood. 17 How useless to spread a net where every bird can see it! 18 These men lie in wait for their own blood; they ambush only themselves! 19 Such are the paths of all who go after ill-gotten gain; it takes away the life of those who get it.

DISCUSSION

The serpent told Eve that God was not her true deliverer or caretaker, that the only way to be like Him was to gain what she didn't have. And life was taken away due to ill-gotten gain. But blessing comes from the Lord's favor, which is by His grace and Christ's intercession. Christ was what Adam, and no one was after the fall - God's true image of Himself on earth, which we can have only with God in love and faith.

Consider today what you try to gain from God instead of with God.

What do these passages teach us about God?

What do these passages teach us about ourselves?

ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER

Staying connected is so important during this time.

Please share something that has touched your heart through your time in God's word this week.

It will encourage your brothers and sisters and create a deeper connection with one another while we are apart.

Post your thoughts, favorite song or a short video at the Circle Family News Facebook Page, or email Thomas and we'll include in next week's email!

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS

We would love for you to invite people you know to be apart of our daily worship and encouragement!

The Facebook Group is private so that you can share freely, but friends are welcome to join! Requests will be approved by the group moderators as they pop up!

SING TO THE LORD

Take a moment to sing a contemporary song to the Lord that is on your heart.



PRAY ALWAYS

Prayer of Confession & Prayer for Immediate Family

