

DAILY DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE



"THE GRASS WITHERS, THE FLOWER FADES, BUT THE WORD OF OUR GOD WILL STAND FOREVER."

ISAIAH 40:8

THIS READING PLAN IS FOR YOU!

Hey Gospel City, this week we are going to study the doctrine of sin. We know the news does a fairly good job of keeping you informed about the brokenness of this world. And frankly it can be scary and depressing. But that is not the point of this study. The point is to help you marvel more and more at the glory of your salvation so that you fall more in love with Jesus. The reality is things are actually far worse than the news might lead you to believe. Sin has marred everything, hell is real, and a day is coming where every person who has ever lived will appear before the judgement seat of Christ and every single sin they ever committed will be put on display (2 Cor. 5:10). No amount of politicking or protesting will be able to save us from this. So when you read these passages you cannot read them like you watch the news, which merely informs you about other people's sins. You need to read these passages realizing that they are meant to confront you with your sin. The Puritan John Owen famously said, "be killing sin, or it will be killing you." If we do not know that our biggest enemy is not "out there," but rather it is inside of us then we will not understand the gospel, we will not cherish Christ as we should, and we will not grow as Christians. But take heart Gospel City, He who knew no sin became sin so that you and I could become the righteousness of God. Oh the depth of the wisdom and love and knowledge of God. How beautiful is His gospel?! We pray that this week will help you see the ugliness of your sin so that you can see more clearly the beauty of your Savior.

THE FORMAT OF THE READING PLAN WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

READ:

What you will read is living and active (Heb. 4:12). It has the power to revive your soul (Ps. 19:7). Its truth is worth more than fine gold (Ps. 19:10), and it will never fail or fade away (Is. 40:8). Go to it humbly, hear God speak, and be reminded of the Hope that you have in Jesus.

MEDITATE ON:

Simply reading the Word is like briskly walking by a warm fire on a cold night. But meditation is like sitting by the warm fire so that it lights up for your face and warms your bones. (Don Whitney, Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian life). Therefore, pick a verse from each section to meditate on. What does it mean? What does it say about God? What does it say about you? What do you need to do to obey? You can pick any verse. But we will suggest a verse each time in case you have trouble picking one.

DISCUSS THIS:

We do not want to just be hearers of the Word; we want to be doers of the Word as well. Ask yourself and those around you how you can apply the text, how you can obey the text, and how you can bring glory to your Father in heaven.

PRAY THIS:

Pray to your Father that the Holy Spirit would empower the Word of Christ to become true in your hearts, your lives, this church, and this world. Pray the Word back to God. For he always answers us when we pray according to his will (1 John 5:14). And the best way to pray according to his will is to pray his Word!



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GOSPEL CITY | SIN AND SALVATION



SUNDAY | DAY 1

READ: GENESIS 2:15-17 + GENESIS 3:1-19

MEDITATE ON:

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

V15

DISCUSS THIS:

Adam and Eve broke one commandment and it resulted in God cursing all of creation. Is sin really that bad? How would you respond to someone who says that God overreacted? (Bonus: Where do you see hope for salvation in the midst of this tragic passage?)

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, thank you for creating us. Thank you for revealing yourself to us through your Word. Thank you for commanding us to do things that give us life and save us from that which destroys us. Help us to understand that sinning against an infinitely glorious God warrants infinite punishment. So thank you for merely cursing us. And thank you for being willing to bruise Jesus' body on the cross so that He could crush sin and Satan. Amen.

MONDAY | DAY 2 READ: ROMANS 5:12-21

MEDITATE ON:

"Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men."

ROMANS 5:18

DISCUSS THIS:

In what ways does this passage reveal the drastic effects of sin? In what ways does this passage help you marvel even more at God's plan and power for salvation? (Bonus: Do people sin because they are sinners? Or are people sinners because they sin? Discuss why this distinction is so important.)

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, open our eyes to how bad our sin really is. For if Adam's one sin could lead to the physical and spiritual death of billions of people, how can I go on making excuses for the hundreds of sins I commit each day? As we understand how awful our sin is, use it to open our eyes to the glory of our salvation. Help us to marvel at the fact that the death and resurrection of Jesus has the power to atone for sin, and not just Adam's one sin, but the trillions of sins that have been committed since the fall. You truly are mighty to save. Amen.



GOSPEL CITY I SIN AND SALVATION

TUESDAY I DAY 3

READ: EXODUS 32:1-24 + EXODUS 34:6-7

MEDITATE ON:

"And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"

EXODUS 32:4

DISCUSS THIS:

od is clearly the one who rescued the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, yet they still turned to worship other "gods." In what ways do you see yourself in this story? (Bonus: How can God "forgive iniquity...yet by no means clear the guilty?")

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, forgive us. You have freed us from slavery to sin and are brining us into the promised land of your eternal heaven; yet we are still tempted to lust after other gods! Forgive us Lord, for we are a stiffnecked people. But you are merciful, gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Thank you for Jesus, who makes it possible for you to forgive our iniquities and maintain your holy justice. Amen.

WEDNESDAY I DAY 4

READ: GENESIS 6:5-8 + JEREMIAH 17:5-10 + EZEKIEL 36:25-27

MEDITATE ON:

"The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

GENESIS 6:5

DISCUSS THIS:

What does the Bible mean when it talks about the "heart"? What do these passages say about our hearts? How do these passages help you see that the gospel is our only hope for salvation?

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, forgive us for thinking far too highly of ourselves. For apart from your grace every intention of our hearts would be only evil continually. Help us to believe this so that we stop trusting in ourselves. Help us to see that our only hope for life and salvation is to trust in you! Thank you for Jesus, for because of Him we can be born again to new life with a new heart. Amen.





GOSPEL CITY I SIN AND SALVATION



THURSDAY | DAY 5

READ: ROMANS 1:18-2:11

MEDITATE ON:

"Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?"

ROMANS 2:4

DISCUSS THIS:

When you read Romans 1:18-32 do you think about your own sin, or other people's sin? What are some examples of God's kindness in your life? Whether you struggle most with immorality, or with pride that you are not as immoral as you could be, meditate on the character of God in a way that brings you to repentance.

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, forgive us for denying what we all know is true. For you and you alone are worthy of our worship. Thank you for rescuing us from the downward spiral of sin and death. Help us to be broken over our own sin, help us to see that any righteousness we do have is because of your grace, and help us to feast on your character in a way that leads us to repentance. Amen.

FRIDAY | DAY 6

READ: ROMANS 3:9-30

MEDITATE ON:

"It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus."

V26

DISCUSS THIS:

Why did Jesus need to die for our sins? Why couldn't God just pardon us without going through all the pain and trouble of crucifying His only begotten Son (see v21-26)?

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, forgive us. For we have no righteousness apart from you. We would never seek you apart from your grace. We are sinful from head to toe apart from you. So thank you for Jesus who died so that we could be forgiven, counted righteous, and enabled to be in your holy presence. Help us to marvel at the wisdom of the gospel that enables a holy God to declare sinners righteous in a way that satisfies His infinite wrath and justice. Amen.

GOSPEL CITY | SIN AND SALVATION



SATURDAY | DAY 7

READ: 1 PETER 1:3-16

MEDITATE ON:

"But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

V15-16

DISCUSS THIS:

Considering the depths of our sin, is the command to be holy unrealistic and unfair? Why or why not? In what ways does this passage teach us how to be holy?

PRAY THIS:

Dear Father, help us to set our minds on the incredible hope that we have. Help us to saturate our hearts with the gospel so that we realize that desiring unholy things is ignorant and foolish. Give us new desires so that we can love what you love, hate what you hate, and desire what you desire. For we know that the gospel is not merely a list of "do's" and "don'ts." The gospel gives us the power to be holy as you are holy! Help us to be who you have called us to be. Amen.

