

**Grow,
Pray,
and
Study Guide.**

Prayers For The Week



Monday: Messiah, let me walk in the knowledge and wisdom of a life in you. As your child, you have given me power to teach your word. Please give me the courage to do so. Amen.

Tuesday: King of Israel, I am grateful for the life of light and power in you. As your child, you have given me power to teach your word. Please give me the courage to do so. Amen.

Wednesday: Holy Spirit, we know we are inheritors of the promise of life eternal with Christ. As your child, you have given me power to teach your word. Please give me the courage to do so. Amen.

Thursday: Holy God, I need to be your disciple, to share your news. As your child, you have given me power to teach your word. Please give me the courage to do so. Amen.

Friday: Lord of David and Solomon, we ask for your grace, guidance, and leadership for those who shape our world. As your child, you have given me power to teach your word. Please give me the courage to do so. Amen.

January 7, 2018

Notes: today I pray



**Bring a friend to Sunday School and worship on
Sunday or Monday!
Check in on Facebook when you are here.**

Study Guide January 7, 2018

Monday January 8th (I took time to pray today)

Read: Matthew 2:1-12 There is power in knowledge. The wise men understood its importance. They struggled to find the reason for the light. The source was not as they truly expected: a toddler who came to redeem us all.

Question: What is the source of your power to get through life? Have you found peace in the light of the knowledge?

Tuesday January 9th (I took time to pray today)

Read: Isaiah 60: 1-6 Arise! Isaiah instructs us all to look up and praise God! He knows that the light of the Messiah can show in each and every one of us. This passage is full of promise for Zion, Israel, and, since we are descendants, the promise is for us too.

Question: How does understanding that God's promise to Israel centuries ago is a promise to you affect you? How do you reflect the light of the Messiah in your life?

Wednesday January 10th (I took time to pray today)

Read: Ephesians 3:1-12 Paul includes us Gentiles in the good news that he shares about Jesus. His message is that we are included in that promise of blessings from the Messiah. *We are included* in the promise of life eternal with God.

Question: Paul's message was new and controversial. Everyone knew that the Messiah was only coming for the Jews. How do you accept a message that is different from what you've always been told? Do you go by what Jesus says or what someone else tells you? Whose message is the most important?

Thursday January 11th (I took time to pray today)

Read: Acts 19:1-7 In Ephesus Paul tells us that he meets disciples. Interestingly, these "disciples" knew nothing about the Holy Spirit, having only been baptized by John. They did not understand the power of the Holy Spirit or the promise he brings. Paul teaches these disciples and they are rebaptized into Christ.

Question: What is your opinion of a disciple who doesn't understand the power of the Holy Spirit? Can that person truly be a disciple? If you were asked about the Holy Spirit, what would you say?

Friday January 12th (I took time to pray today)

Read: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 There is so much to think about in these few verses. The psalmist asks God to give the king wisdom, for him to bring justice to the people and to care for those who don't have enough. He continues in the conviction that his king will do as God expects him to do.

Question: How different is his prayer from ours? Should we expect our leaders to act as the psalmist expected his king to? What is our obligation to those who do not have enough?

How can you live out your faith for the next 51 weeks? What will you do to grow in Christ? How will you improve your service to your God? As you pray this week, pray for The United Methodist Church, our own part of it, our community, your friends, family, and neighbors. Pray for guidance and courage to step out and live your faith.

If you have any questions or if there is something in your heart, please ask Pastor Bob, Donna T., Joe H., or Liz G. We are ready to serve.