

DIS COV ERY

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scriptureunion
HELPING PEOPLE MEET GOD EVERY DAY

EXTRA

A GUIDE FOR MEETING GOD DAILY IN HIS WORD

Welcome to *EXTRA*

EXTRA was created as an additional resource to use with Scripture Union's daily devotional *Discovery*. It is an excellent tool for small group Bible study and can also enhance your own individual Bible reading. These questions will encourage you to dig deeper into the meaning of the Scripture passages you have read during the week.

Galatians 4:8-6:18

1. What can we learn about law and promise from the example Paul uses of Sarah and Hagar?
2. Paul says, “For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself’” (Galatians 5:14). How do you think this instruction fulfills the whole law? How do we live this out practically?
3. How do we discern the works of flesh and the works of the Spirit in our own lives?
4. How does the principle of sowing and reaping, explained in Galatians 6, influence our behavior as followers of Christ?

Psalm 133, John 10:22-12:11

- 1.** In John 10, Jesus tells those gathered around him that his followers know his voice. How can you discern Jesus' voice in your own life?

- 2.** Why do you think Jesus wept when Lazarus died even though he knew he could and would raise him from the dead?

- 3.** Why do you think the resurrection of Lazarus was the last sign before Jesus could not walk openly among the Jews anymore (John 11:54)? Why do you think this was the last sign before the plot to kill him?

- 4.** How does the anointing of Jesus by Mary reflect her understanding of Jesus' identity? How does it demonstrate her dedication and devotion to Jesus?

Psalm 134, John 18-19

1. What can we learn from Jesus by how he handled his arrest?
2. Why do you think the crowd chose to release Barabbas instead of Jesus?
3. Why do you think the gospel writer John emphasizes that Jesus' death fulfills the Scriptures?
4. What is significant about Jesus' final words, "It is finished" (John 19:30)?

John 20-21

1. When Jesus appears to his disciples in John 20, he says “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” What does this mean to you? How does this help you understand Jesus’ mission for us?
2. John 20:31 says “that you may have life in his name.” What does this mean to you?
3. Do you see Jesus’ grace toward Peter in John 21? Does this resonate with your own personal experience with Jesus and his grace?
4. John 21:25 says, “Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.” Does this influence your understanding of Jesus’ work and his mission?

Psalm 135, 1 Corinthians 1-4

1. What does it mean to be sanctified in Christ Jesus (1 Corinthians 1:2)?
2. How does Paul view wisdom (1 Corinthians 2 and 3)? How do we ensure that our faith is in God's wisdom and not human wisdom (1 Corinthians 2:5)?
3. What does it look like in your daily life to be a "co-worker in God's service" (1 Corinthians 3:9)?
4. How do you respond when you face persecution, judgment, or suffering for the sake of Christ?

Psalm 136, 1 Corinthians 5-7

- 1.** How can we learn from Paul's teaching of not tolerating "a little yeast" (1 Corinthians 5:6) in our own lives?
- 2.** How can we reconcile that we have been washed, sanctified, and justified by the Spirit through Christ (1 Corinthians 6:11) with ongoing sin in our lives?
- 3.** What does it mean to you to be one with the Lord (1 Corinthians 6:17)?
- 4.** Based on Paul's teachings in 1 Corinthians 7, how can the Church better support single individuals and married individuals?

Psalm 137, Exodus 1:1-5:21

- 1.** The midwives feared God and did not listen to the king of Egypt (Exodus 1). How can you learn from this fear of God and apply it to your own life?

- 2.** Why do you think Moses' mother placed him along the bank of the Nile? How did this act demonstrate courage and faith?

- 3.** Why do you think God used a burning bush to speak to Moses? What are ways that God has spoken to you?

- 4.** Why do you think Moses responds to God's call in the way he does? What can we learn from God's persistence in calling and using Moses despite Moses' doubts?

Psalm 138, Exodus 5:22-11:10

- 1.** Why was it important for Moses to understand God's covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob?

- 2.** Why do you think the Egyptian magicians could do the same miracles performed by Moses and Aaron?

- 3.** In what ways do you relate to Pharaoh agreeing to listen to God when times were tough, but going back to his sin when the plague relented?

- 4.** What can we learn from Pharaoh's hardened heart even when presented with clear miracles and signs?

Psalm 139, Proverbs 1-4

1. What do you think is the purpose of the book of Proverbs?
2. After reading the first four chapters of Proverbs, how would you define wisdom?
3. What are some ways in your everyday life to seek wisdom?
4. Proverbs 3:11-12 says, “My son, do not despise the Lord’s discipline, and do not resent his rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.” How does this relate to your own understanding and experience of the Lord’s discipline?

Psalm 140, Acts 1:1-2:41

- 1.** Why do you think Jesus tells the apostles that they will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to them (Acts 1:8)? How can viewing the Holy Spirit as power encourage you in your everyday life?
- 2.** How does Peter use Old Testament Scriptures to address the crowd? Why do you think he used these prophecies to describe Jesus' life and death?
- 3.** How do the people respond to Peter's call for repentance? What role does baptism have in this response?
- 4.** How do we see the Holy Spirit empowering the apostles in Acts 2? How does this encourage you in sharing the gospel?

Acts 2:42-4:31, Genesis 11

- 1.** Why was the crowd astonished at the healing of the lame man in Acts 3? How does this show their lack of understanding of Jesus' mission and identity?
- 2.** How can we learn from the boldness that Peter and John displayed in sharing the gospel in Acts 3 & 4? Why do you think the believers prayed for boldness in speaking God's Word and not protection from persecution?
- 3.** When the believers heard what happened with Peter and John, in Acts 4, their immediate response was to pray. What can we learn from this? How can we exhibit this prayerful disposition in our own lives?
- 4.** What does the story of the Tower of Babel teach us about the sovereignty of God and the limitations of humans?

Psalm 141, Genesis 12-16

1. Why do you think Abram chose to build altars at those specific locations in Genesis 12 & 13?
2. What is the significance of God promising Abram countless offspring?
3. How can we see God's faithfulness through Abram's journey?
4. How does Genesis 16 reflect the struggle of trusting God's promises? In what ways have you struggled to trust God's promises in your own life?

Psalm 142, Genesis 17:1-19:29, Psalm 143, 1 Samuel 1

- 1.** Why do you think God changed the names of Abram and Sarai?

- 2.** Do the reactions of Abram and Sarai to the promise of a son resonate with you? How so? Do you ever struggle to trust seemingly impossible promises from God?

- 3.** How does the conversation between God and Abram about the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah shape your understanding of prayer and the power of prayer?

- 4.** Why do you think Lot was hesitant to leave Sodom? Are there areas of sin in your life that you are hesitant to let go of?