

STUDY GUIDE

March 1 to 6, 2010

The Study Guide is an opportunity for you to read and study the Bible on your own or with a friend. Each day's reading will only take a few minutes, but will serve as an opportunity for you to grow in your faith and to spend time connecting with God. Enjoy!

Prayer for the Week: Loving God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to us who have gone astray from your ways, and bring us again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son. Guide us now by your Holy Spirit that through the words of scripture we might be led to him, who alone is the way the truth and the life. Amen.

MONDAY – Read Psalm 27. A primary role of the prophet was to be the voice of God for and to the people of God. The events surrounding the life of Abram become more than simply ancestral tales; they become the voice of God to the people of God. Are you ever called to use your voice in a prophetic way to lead your family or co-workers?

TUESDAY – Read Genesis 18:1-16. In this passage we see Abraham's wife Sarah laughing when she learns that she will bear the promised child despite her great age! Sarah had laughed because her mind could not grasp the fact that such a wonderful miracle will occur in her; this can be regarded as a laughter of joy! However we don't see Sarah being rebuked for laughing, but rather the promise was just reaffirmed (verse 14). Have you ever scoffed at God ?

WEDNESDAY – Read Ecclesiastes 2:1-26. Not all laughter is of the Holy Spirit. The writer of this book has come to realize that his laughter is empty because it has been rooted in materialism and pleasure seeking. Do you find that you are more light-hearted when you seek to live out God's will?

THURSDAY – Read Luke 6:13-26. Compare verses 21 and 25. Jesus was talking to these fresh new disciples in verses 20-23 and comparing the repentant attitudes of the disciples to that of the proud unrepentant sinners who think they are right with God (verses 24-26). Do you know people who are weeping now, but are on the path to find God's joy?

FRIDAY – Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-8. Much of what we accomplish in life is achieved through the use of our talents and abilities. But from whom did we receive these talents? How has God been involved in your success?

SATURDAY – Tomorrow as we celebrate Holy Communion at all services, Pastor Jim Glass will be sharing the Good News in his sermon entitled *Who Can Say No?* In preparation read Matthew 2:15 and John 1:1-4. Be in prayer that all who receive the body and blood of Christ will experience the transforming power of God afresh.