

# Weekly Study Guide

The Week of February 17, 2013

---

## Daily Readings

---

Monday	Matthew 16:13-28	Tuesday	Philippians 2:1-11	Wednesday	I John 3:16-23
Thursday	Ephesians 5:21-33	Friday	Galatians 5:13-17	Saturday	I Corinthians 1:18-31

*My notes on this week's readings...*

## Next Week in Worship

---

**Next week's message:** *Coming closer to Jesus*

**Next week's readings:** Luke 19:1-10

Join us next week as we continue our Lent worship series *Collide* that helps us to see the difference between Jesus' kingdom and the kingdoms of the world through a variety of encounters with people on the way to the cross. Next week, we will see how Jesus invites Zacheaus to move from watching at a distance in a tree to spending the day with Him. During this collision with Jesus, Zacheaus' life is radically changed as he finds new vision and direction for his life.



[www.flcwb.org](http://www.flcwb.org) • [info@flcwb.org](mailto:info@flcwb.org)

4000 Linden Street • White Bear Lake, MN 55110 • 651.429.5349

# Group Discussion

Connect	<p>What has the season of Lent meant to you in your life? Is Lent an important season to you or a foreign concept? What memories do you have of Lent from when you were growing up? Are you giving anything up for Lent this year?</p>
Learn	<p>Read about the backdrop to Jesus' collision with Peter in Matthew 16:13-20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What did you learn about Caesarea Philippi in the sermon? What collisions with Jesus' Kingdom did this place represent politically, culturally, and spiritually? How would this physical location have helped his disciples understand the significance of confessing that Jesus is the Messiah-the anointed King and Savior?</li><li>• What promise and vision does Jesus give to His disciples about what it will mean to be part of His church? How does Jesus' promise and vision for the church inspire or challenge you personally today?</li></ul> <p>Read about Jesus' collision with Peter in Matthew 16:21-26 as if you were actually there.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What sticks out to you the most about this interaction? Why?</li><li>• What was more surprising to you about this passage? That Peter rebuked Jesus or that Jesus rebuked Peter and called Him Satan?</li><li>• Why do you think Jesus' proclamation of the cross was so confusing for Peter?</li><li>• How did this collision, or conflict, bring clarity to Jesus' mission and expectations for His disciples? Has conflict ever served to clarify values in your life?</li></ul> <p>Throughout the New Testament, we can see how Jesus' vision profoundly shaped the early churches' identity, community, and mission together. Read some of the following verses and discuss how the cross shapes Christian community in different ways.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read Philippians 2:1-11: our life together</li><li>• I Corinthians 1:18-31: our meaning and purpose in life</li><li>• Galatians 5:13-17: in handling our desires</li><li>• I John 3:16-23: in loving each other practically</li><li>• Ephesians 5: 21-27: in our marriages and families</li><li>• Hebrews 12:1-3: in dealing with our challenges</li></ul>
Apply	<p>Discuss: In your life, how has following Jesus' call to take up your cross and follow Him led helped you to grow in spiritual maturity? How have moments you avoided the cross kept you from spiritual maturity? What area in your life do you feel most challenged to take up your cross in right now?</p>
Pray	<p>Spend some time thanking God for going to the cross for us and praying for each other that we would find strength in the cross through the different challenges we are facing today.</p>