

Weekly Study Guide

The week of November 10, 2013

Daily Readings

Monday	1 Corinthians 15:9-11	Tuesday	Matthew 7:7-8	Wednesday	Matthew 7:9-11
Thursday	Matthew 7:12	Friday	Matthew 22:39	Saturday	Leviticus 19:18

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: *Rock Solid*

Next week's readings: Matthew 7:13-29

Just like a house, every life is built on a foundation of something. And just like a house, storms in life will test our foundations. Because he loves us, Jesus urgently invites us to build our lives on the solid rock of his teaching. The Sermon on the Mount is a beautiful vision, but it will do us no good at all unless we put it into practice in our lives.



www.flcwb.org • info@flcwb.org

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

Group Discussion

Connect	Have you ever asked for anything in prayer and not received it? Do you think that God answers all our prayers? What is the best prayer God has answered in your life?
Learn	<p>Read Matthew 7:7-12.</p> <p>In verse 7, Jesus starts this section by guiding his followers on how to pray. It makes logical sense that best way to get something is to ask for it. In Matthew 6:8, Jesus says that the Father in Heaven knows our need even before we even ask. If so, why then would Jesus tell us to ask?</p> <p>In verse 8, Jesus says that all we have to do is ask and we shall receive. Is it really that simple? Why isn't everyone asking for a \$1 million, if that is the case? Where is the disconnect between what Jesus is saying and how it really works?</p> <p>Matthew 7:9-11 is a commentary by Jesus on parenting. He describes the difference between good parents and bad parents by the sort of gifts the parents give to their children.</p> <p>Verses 9-10: What kind of request would you refuse your child? For example, would you allow your child to watch whatever they want on TV? Or would you allow your child to watch as much TV as they want? Why do mom and dad have the final say? And what happens if the children are allowed to do whatever they want?</p> <p>Verse 11: Why do you think that Jesus refers to human parents as "bad"? Name some of those "good things" that parents want to give to their children. What "better things" is the Father in Heaven trying to give to His earthly children?</p> <p>Matthew 7:12: In this verse, Jesus quotes what has come to be known as the "Golden Rule." A "rule" because it is meant to guide our conduct toward that which is best and most holy. St. Paul writes, ". . . If anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules" (2 Timothy 2:5).</p> <p>Read the Law of Moses as written in Leviticus 19:18. Is there any difference in the way in which Jesus quotes the law in Matthew 7:12?</p> <p>St. James has even a different interpretation of the Golden Rule. Read James 2:14-17 and comment on his thoughts about how to treat others</p>
Apply	In Matthew 22:39, Jesus restates the Golden Rule as, "Thou shall love thy neighbor as thyself." How is this different from what you read today?
Pray	Guide us in our prayer that we would ask for those "good things" the Father in Heaven is prepared to shower down upon us. Open our hearts so they would be receptive to the grace that leads the way to God's will.