

Weekly Study Guide

The week of April 6, 2014

Daily Readings

Monday	Ephesians 2: 12-22	Tuesday	Luke 5:1-10	Wednesday	1 John 4:10-11
Thursday	John 13:33-35	Friday	Matthew 18:19-21	Saturday	Matthew 6:8-10

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: *Because He Died, we are moved from being Enemies to Friends*

Next week's readings:

On Palm Sunday we remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem as King, but as a very different kind of King than what the people were expecting. The crowds that cheered him as their King, soon turned from friends to enemies. But what Jesus came to do, was to turn all of us who are enemies of God through sin, into those who God will again invite in as friends eternally.

first lutheran church

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Group Discussion

Connect	<p>Have you ever had a moment where you truly knew you were part of something much bigger than yourself? Share that memory with the group.</p>
Learn	<p>Read John 14:23-27. Our God is a Holy Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, which means that His very being is Community. 1 John tells us that God is love, and love needs an object. From the very beginning, before there even were human beings, God himself was a community of love.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As you read Jesus' words to the disciples in John 14, what characteristics do you see in the relationships of God's triune being?• Whose words does Jesus speak in verse 24? Who will speak Jesus' words? (See verse 26.)• What does it mean to you that you are invited into relationship with a God who already is in his very being, relational? <p>Read Genesis 1:26-27. Why do you think God created two different beings to reflect his image for the world?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you think human community and relationship reflect God's image?• What do you think God is communicating here? <p>There are many things in this world that create barriers between us. Our sin, our turning away from relationship with God has also disconnected us from one another. Read Ephesians 2:11-22.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who destroyed the barrier and brought us near?• What are we 'being built' to be? Who is doing the building? What is the foundation? Why do you think the word 'together' is important here?• When you are building things, do you find it easier to build alone, or with others? What is the benefit of building with others? <p>Read 1 Corinthians 12:15-21. When are we tempted to think we are not part of the body?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• When are we tempted to think we don't need others?• Why do you think God has always called his people into community, from "Me" to "We"?
Apply	<p>Are there people in our church community who are not connected to others? How might you go out of your way this Sunday to say hello to someone who you do not yet know?</p> <p>Is there someone sitting in your section that you haven't met? Remind them, In Christ Jesus, they are family!</p>
Pray	<p>Pray for our Christian brothers and sisters all over the world who are facing persecution for their faith.</p>