

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Mark 11:1-11

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (v5)

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1--15:47

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature & to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will & in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens— wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, & I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, & my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult & spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, & I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. How do the “Suffering Servant Songs” (*Isaiah 42:1-4; 49:1-6; 50:4-9a, 53:13--53:12; see also Isaiah 61:1-3; John 12:37-41.*) show us that Jesus has always been God’s plan A for his creation? *See Genesis 3:15; Romans 5:6, 11:32; 1 Corinthians 2:7; Galatians 3:22; Ephesians 1:3-12, 3:9; Colossians 1:26; 1 Timothy 2:6; Hebrews 7:11, 15-28 (don’t forget to check surrounding verses for context)*
2. What verbal images in vv4-6 suggest Jesus’ humiliations during Holy Week? What words suggest that the Servant was always faithful to God? (*Thanks, Light on the Lessons!*)
Copyright © 2020, Lutheran Bible Ministries. Reprinted by permission.

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. When were several times when you had to take the full brunt of punishment for your actions—even when others you knew had avoided a similar fate? *Think beyond traffic citations & similar offenses.* How did you feel then vs. now? How did you learn to forgive (and who did you need to forgive)? What amends did you make (or need to make)? *See 1 Peter 2:11-23*
4. Now consider the opposite: when were times you got away with little or no punishment, even when others you knew did not avoid a similar fate? How did you feel then vs. now? How did you learn to forgive (and who did you need to forgive)? What amends did you make (or need to make)? Review *Psalm 51, 139:23-24*

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Consider *Genesis 2:15-17, 3:9-13, 4:8-11, 6:5-8, 8:21, 9:5-6; Leviticus 26:3-46; Jeremiah 11:7-10, 31:31-34; Mark 10:45; Romans 1:18-32, 5:12-17, 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22; Ephesians 1:7-8; Hebrews 9:15-26.* How do these passages help you explain the necessity of Jesus’ death on the cross to someone else? Use your study Bible’s footnotes for additional help.
6. It’s often through our own suffering that we learn how to be compassionate to others in their sufferings. What did you learn from God in your suffering that allows you to bring sustenance to others? Be specific, citing bible verses, doctrines, or worship practices that you learned from.

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog

Palm Sunday of Our Lord's Passion

03.24.24

Series: Guaranteed!

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

God doesn't go back on his word

Finish Line

God guaranteed the covenant, & so he guarantees its completion

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? (v9)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Christ humbled himself & became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him
& gave him the name that is above every name. (*Philippians 2:8-9*)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Mark 11:1-11

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (v5)

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1--15:47

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature & to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will & in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Isaiah 50:4-9a

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens— wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, & I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, & my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult & spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, & I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. How do the “Suffering Servant Songs” (*Isaiah 42:1-4; 49:1-6; 50:4-9a, 53:13--53:12; see also Isaiah 61:1-3; John 12:37-41.*) show us that Jesus has always been God’s plan A for his creation? *See Genesis 3:15; Romans 5:6, 11:32; 1 Corinthians 2:7; Galatians 3:22; Ephesians 1:3-12, 3:9; Colossians 1:26; 1 Timothy 2:6; Hebrews 7:11, 15-28 (don’t forget to check surrounding verses for context)*
2. What verbal images in vv4-6 suggest Jesus’ humiliations during Holy Week? What words suggest that the Servant was always faithful to God? (*Thanks, Light on the Lessons!*)
Copyright © 2020, Lutheran Bible Ministries. Reprinted by permission.

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. When were several times when you had to take the full brunt of punishment for your actions—even when others you knew had avoided a similar fate? *Think beyond traffic citations & similar offenses.* How did you feel then vs. now? How did you learn to forgive (and who did you need to forgive)? What amends did you make (or need to make)? *See 1 Peter 2:11-23*
4. Now consider the opposite: when were times you got away with little or no punishment, even when others you knew did not avoid a similar fate? How did you feel then vs. now? How did you learn to forgive (and who did you need to forgive)? What amends did you make (or need to make)? Review *Psalm 51, 139:23-24*

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. Consider *Genesis 2:15-17, 3:9-13, 4:8-11, 6:5-8, 8:21, 9:5-6; Leviticus 26:3-46; Jeremiah 11:7-10, 31:31-34; Mark 10:45; Romans 1:18-32, 5:12-17, 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22; Ephesians 1:7-8; Hebrews 9:15-26.* How do these passages help you explain the necessity of Jesus’ death on the cross to someone else? Use your study Bible’s footnotes for additional help.
6. It’s often through our own suffering that we learn how to be compassionate to others in their sufferings. What did you learn from God in your suffering that allows you to bring sustenance to others? Be specific, citing bible verses, doctrines, or worship practices that you learned from.

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2024; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog

Palm Sunday of Our Lord's Passion

03.24.24

Series: Guaranteed!

Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

God doesn't go back on his word

Finish Line

God guaranteed the covenant, & so he guarantees its completion

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty? (v9)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

Christ humbled himself & became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him
& gave him the name that is above every name. (*Philippians 2:8-9*)

Prayer of the Day from SundaysandSeasons.com. Copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies license SB140201. Scripture is reprinted from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Devotion prepared by Rev. Jared Stillions. Copyright 2022; may be reproduced & shared for personal, non-sale use, provided this copyright notice is included. Previous studies available stpeterhallettsville.org/blog