#### MONDAY 5.5.25 - Matthew 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

What does it mean to be a peacemaker? Is it establishing a calm atmosphere in the home by settling squabbling children or being a diplomat between countries at war to broker a peace treaty, or smoothing out disputes between spouses, friends, or neighbors? All of these defusing situations help everyone around breathe a sigh of relief, but why would they qualify for making the arbiter a child of God? They wouldn't necessarily unless these actions were part of presenting the Lord to those caught in a spiritual battle between serving God and following the devil. John 1:12-13 explains that "as many as received Him (Jesus), to them He gave the right to become children of God .." Thus, when we are truly peacemakers, we make peace with God by accepting His Son as our Lord and Savior or by leading others to do the same.

#### SPACE FOR REFLECTION

### TUESDAY 5.6.25 - Romans 15:13

Today's verse is part of a letter written to early gentile Christians in Rome. God's plan for the world was proclaimed through the Jews and His love was described and pictured and finally expressed through them. But the message sent from God was to the whole world. So, the benefits enjoyed by the Jews was a billboard for the world to read about the glorious love of God. Gentiles who turned to the Christian religion would face persecution, because it is a fact that the world hates God and His people. It was true then and now. This verse claims that our God provides peace and joy. When those are present in us, we are more able to render hope for ourselves and others. Our God is a God of Love, and of Power and of Hope. It is good for us to dwell on that.

#### SPACE FOR REFLECTION

#### WEDNESDAY 5.6.25 - Timothy 1:4-7

Being a mother is one of the hardest jobs one can have. Moms wear many hats. Some days they are a life coach, personal chef, maid, chauffeur, and best friend wrapped up all in one! While mothers love their families and would do anything for them, it is easy to get tired and worn out in the midst of day-to-day life. Being a mom can be a thankless job. The answers don't always come easy, and the to-do lists never seem to end. Though it may be challenging, it is such a blessing!

Whether you are feeling encouraged, tired, joyful, or worn out in your role as a mother remember that you have been entrusted with great responsibility. We might not always understand how God is working, but in 2 Timothy 1, we find that a mother's faith and example are a tremendous influence in the life of the family.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

### THURSDAY 5.7.25 - Proverbs 31:30-31

Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

Never has there been more of a need for Godly moms than there is today. What does a Godly mom look like. Well, she is a Philippians 2: 3-4 mom, putting the needs of her husband and children above her own needs. A 1 Thessalonians 5:18 mom, praying for her family without ceasing. A Proverbs 3:3 mom, her love and faithfulness are never ending. A Hebrews 4:12 mom, she believes in the power of the Word of God. A Hebrews 10:25 mom, she realizes the importance of having her family in church. Finally, she is a Proverbs 22:6 mom, she believes in the promise of God regarding her children. Moms, I know this is a high calling, but I believe it is Gods calling on your life. My prayer for you today is that you will rise up and be the kind of mom God is calling you to be.

#### SPACE FOR REFLECTION

#### FRIDAY 5.8.25 - Psalm 127:1-5

As I read through Psalm 27 and consulted my study bible's notes, their description is perfectly precise, "Godly wisdom concerning home and hearth...all life's blessings are a gift from God, rather than our own achievement.". Motherhood is hard work and requires sacrifice, but what an amazing blessing it is. It wasn't until I became a mom that I fully understood what an enormous blessing my own mother is in my life. I am so thankful for her. I have continually prayed that I will be as great a blessing to my own children as my mother has been to me. Maybe God has not blessed you with "earthly" parenthood, but that doesn't mean that you can't be a blessing in a young person's life. As we remember our Moms this Mother's Day, I encourage you to be looking for ways that God might use you to be a blessing to the young people in our Shiloh Family.

#### SPACE FOR REFLECTION

## **E2 GROUP OPPORTUNITIES**

#### SUNDAY MORNINGS - 9:40am

- Kids CHILDREN'S CHURCH (Ages 4 4th Grade) LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level NURSERY (through Age 3) \*9:40AM ONLY LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower Level
- Youth E2 CLASS (5th 12th Grade) LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)

Adults SPRING QUARTER - Sunday Mornings at 9:40

LOCATION: B8-10 - Lane Kemler- began March 2<sup>nd</sup>. **EXPLORE THE BIBLE** - **1,2 Peter & Jude** - These books were written primarily to address suffering caused by persecution and to combat false teachings.

LOCATION:B11 Randy Hutchison - begins April 27<sup>th</sup>. BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE - part 2 Elisha: Seeing the Hand of God at Work - This Old Testament prophet did miracles that pointed to the God he served. God can work through you, too.

LOCATION: B1&2 - Joel Day - begins April 27<sup>th</sup>. **Out of the Cave** - **How Elijah Embraced God's Hope When Darkness Was All He Could See** This study examines the causes of depression and

discouragement and offers a Biblical approach to wellness - mind, body, and soul.

#### SUNDAY EVENINGS - 6:00pm

- KidsMESSIAH KIDS (Kindergarten 4th Grade)<br/>LOCATION: Camp Shiloh on the Lower LevelYouthYOUTH GROUP (5th 12th Grade)<br/>LOCATION: Youth Activity Center (across street)
- Adults LOCATION: Worship Center

#### SPRING SMALL GROUPS

**THURSDAY EVENING STUDY** - beginning June 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm - Rm. B8-B10. **REVELATION: Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom -** by Jen Wilkin. Understand Revelation as the culmination of God's great story. This is a 10-week study led by Denise Whitfield and Lisa Domenico. Sign up at the information tables or on the connect card!

**WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY** - began April 23<sup>rd</sup> - 6:30pm - Rm. B8-10 **TOGETHER** - **Community That Marked the Acts 2 Church** - Be transformed by connecting to a community of believers. With Barry Wills

TO SIGN UP OR REQUEST MORE INFORMATION FOR ANY OF THESE GROUPS OR CLASSES, USE THE CONNECTION CARD IN THE BULLETIN. THANK YOU.

# John 20:19-21 The First Seven Words of the Risen Savior (Pt. 2)

Mary, Peter, and John visit the grave of Jesus on Resurrection morning. After seeing the empty tomb, Mary bows her head and weeps, Peter scratches his head and wonders, but John lifts his head and worships.

Then, Jesus appears to Mary and speaks to her.

### "Why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

1. Q\_\_\_\_\_ Word (vv 11-15)

"Mary."

2. P\_\_\_\_\_ Word (v 16)

### "Do not hold on to me."

3. C\_\_\_\_\_ Word (vv 17-18)

After Jesus' encounter with Mary, He appears to His apostles.

### "Peace be with you!"

4. C\_\_\_\_\_ Word (vv19-21a)

Jesus displays His pierced hands and side. It's only through His sacrifice on the cross that a person has sins forgiven and eternal life. Faith in Jesus' finished work on Calvary gives peace with God.

## "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

5. C\_\_\_\_\_Word (v 21b)

"If we are going to go into the world as Christ was in the world, we are going to have to learn how to become friends with unbelievers and then work out the issues of life by their side.

~ James Montgomery Boice

Do you want to have an impact on your friends, family, co-workers, and neighbors for the gospel? Then go around doing good (Acts 10:38). That often creates an opportunity to share the good news of Christ with them.



# TAKING OUR NEXT STEP TOGETHER IN THE WORD



# May 5 – May 9

### INTRODUCTION:

Part of our purpose and strategy as a church is to Edify and Equip (E2) every believer. We desire to see every person take their next step with God, both individually as well as with families and small groups (E2 Communities). This devotional is to aid us in just that. We invite you to join us in daily devotion.

### OVERVIEW:

Monday and Tuesday's readings will be a follow up on Sunday's message from April 4<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Doug Lyon continues with "The First Seven Words of the Risen Savior". Wednesday's through Friday's devotions will help prepare us for the message on April 11<sup>th</sup>, "Thanks Mom! ", with Pastor Doug Lyon

### KEY/MEMORY VERSE:

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 15:12