

MONDAY 5.30.22 – LUKE 4:18-19

We do not often feel as though we are entrusted with the wellness of the poor, the imprisoned, the blind, and the oppressed. We feel overwhelmed just simply trying to keep our own train on the tracks. How are we to help others stay on the path of the righteous when we struggle to remain on the path ourselves?!?

Eight simple words can empower us on our journey. The first eight words of today’s scripture. Say it with me brothers and sisters... “The Spirit of the Lord is on me.’ When you feel powerless... “The Spirit of the Lord is on me.” When you feel unqualified... “The Spirit of the Lord is on me.” When you simply do not know what to do for others or even yourself... “The Spirit of the Lord is on me.” Eight words to remind you that you cannot do it alone. You were never meant to.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

TUESDAY 5.31.22 – 1 PETER 2:9-12

Christ must be proclaimed and the Gospel must be shared! Peter reminds us that this is our purpose, our calling, our very identity. We are a people set apart for this very thing... to shout the praises of the God who has saved us. Our worship is not just an offering to God, but it also a testimony to the world! We sing “To God be the glory, great things He has done, so loved He the world that He gave us His Son” or “O hero of Heaven, You conquered the grave, You free every captive and break every chain: O God, You have done great things”, not just to remind ourselves and each other, but also to declare and boldly proclaim to all with ears to hear.

Our God has does deserve glory, Jesus really does save, and the Holy Spirit is still doing great things. Our lives need to be lived to tell others about it!

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

WEDNESDAY 6.1.22 – ACTS 9:1-31

The beginning of Acts 9 marks the beginning of a shift in the book of Acts and over the next several weeks we’ll be looking at the shifts or changes that God is inviting us into.

As we saw this past week, God used shifts/changes in Philip’s circumstances to further the spread of the Gospel. And we see here in Acts 9 that Jesus is beginning to make shifts/changes in Paul’s life as well, changes that will pave the way for the Church to be built and the Kingdom to advance in unimaginable ways.

Let’s begin to consider together, how a fresh encounter with the Resurrected Christ, a true encounter with the Holy Spirit might create shifts/changes in our lives. Consider how the God “who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine according to His power that is at work *within us*” (Eph. 3:20) might built His Church and expand His Kingdom through the changes He wants to make in your life and my life.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

THURSDAY 6.2.22 – EZEKIEL 36:26-27

Have you ever known someone who was seemed beyond help? Someone you were certain couldn’t change, no matter how much they needed to or wanted to? Someone who just couldn’t help themselves?

I have... I’ve been that person.

I’m sure if you’re honest, you have too. The Gospel doesn’t just promise eternal life in heaven when we die, it promises communion and fellowship with God (through His Holy Spirit) here and now! And the Gospel also calls us to a brand-new kind of life. It invites us to make changes.

The really good news is this, we don’t have to make the changes on our own, in fact the Gospel makes it pretty clear that we can’t make the changes on our own. But God can and God will. And I believe, that right now, in you and in me, God is making the change.

Invite and make room for the Holy Spirit to work on the changes you need in your heart and spirit today.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION

FRIDAY 6.3.22 – PSALM 139:23-24

Psalms 139 is written by King David. It’s a prayer for God to search the heart and to see its true devotion. The psalm is comprised of four poetic paragraphs of six verses each. David reveals several of the attributes or characteristics of God. Our Lord is omniscient (vv 1-6), omnipresent (vv 7-12), omnipotent (vv 13-18), and omnirighteous (vv 19-22). An understanding of who God is should result in an examination of who we are. So, we ask God to search us; to test us; and to reveal what is not pleasing to Him. As a result, we confess sin, forsake sin, and walk in holiness before our all-knowing, all-present, all-powerful, and all-just God.

SPACE FOR REFLECTION
