Weekly Study Guide

The week of May 5, 2013

Daily Readings

Monday	Matthew 28:16-20	Tuesday	Luke 24:36-49	Wednesday	1 Corinthians 11:17-34
Thursday	Luke 9:1-9	Friday	Luke 10:1-23	Saturday	Isaiah 49:5-7

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: Ascension Day

Next week's readings: Acts 1:1-11, Acts 7:54-59

Jesus sent his disciples out to "show and tell" the world about him, but what is Jesus himself doing now? Does his ascension to heaven mean he is absent from us now? Join us next week on Ascension Sunday to learn what the Bible teaches about the meaning of Jesus' reign at the right hand of God.



Learn

Have you ever heard or experienced something that you just couldn't keep to yourself? What was that like?

Read Matthew 28:16-20 and **Luke 24:36-49**. Luke and Matthew describe different commissioning scenes, but both tell us that Jesus commissioned his disciples to be witnesses to his resurrection and to spread the news about him. This commission to take the word out to others, especially to "all nations" as Matthew 28 says, would have been a pretty new idea to these 1st century Jews.

- In your understanding, what is at stake in this urgent command to "go and tell"?
- What stands to be lost if we don't get the word out? Do the tellers and the hearers both lose?
- What is gained if we do get the word out?

For a different example of sharing what we've received, read **1 Corinthians 11:17-34**, one of the most important Biblical teachings about celebrating the Lord's Supper. The problem addressed in this passage is influenced by social class. The wealthier Corinthian Christians were taking care of themselves at their shared meal and leaving "those who had nothing" to fend for themselves. They were receiving the body of Christ in the Lord's Supper but not discerning that they were the body of Christ in action.

- Their celebration of the Lord's Supper was obviously part of a full meal, which is very different from our own practice. What would be challenging about doing it that way?
- What might be gained if we still did it that way?
- In what ways do you think our own church life has overcome the challenge of being divided?
- In what ways do you think we still put ourselves first and reinforce our divisions?
- Do you think following Jesus today means going out from our own social class and caring for others who are in material need?

What do you think God might be saying to you in this study? How do you feel lead to respond?

Apply

As our church completed the spring Fill Up Hunger food drive today, please remember to pray for the people in our community who have less than they need.