

Weekly Study Guide

The week of August 24, 2014

Daily Readings

Monday	Read Isaiah 56:1-2 and Mark 1:14-15. What similarities do you see between these passages, separated by 500-700 years? Pray today and this week for insight to read the Bible in the way of Jesus.
Tuesday	Read Isaiah 56:3-8 and Mark 11:12-17. What similarities do you see between these two passages? Can you try to imagine how Jesus was thinking about the fulfillment of these words in his own ministry? Pray today and this week for insight to read the Bible in the way of Jesus.
Wednesday	Read Isaiah 56:9-12 and Matthew 23:13-39. What similarities do you see between these two passages? Can you try to imagine how Jesus saw Isaiah's words addressing the dangerous religious leaders of his own day? Pray today and this week for insight to read the Bible in the way of Jesus.
Thursday	Read Isaiah 57:1-13. The words of Isaiah (like the words of Jesus after him) could speak words of strong confrontation against sin and idolatry. Do you think people today need to hear a message like this? How so? Pray today for faith and loyalty to God alone.
Friday	Read Isaiah 57:14-21. God promised his people a reprieve from punishment. He promised to guide, restore, and comfort him. Consider the character of God who says, "I will not accuse forever nor will I always be angry." What do you think God wants you to hear in those words? Pray today for strength to turn from sin and for comfort in the grace of God.
Saturday	Read Isaiah 58:1-13. What connection does Isaiah see between "spiritual" practices like fasting and "social" issues like injustice, poverty, hunger, and oppression? Can you imagine any similar words in the teaching of Jesus? Pray today that we might all grow together in honoring God and caring for one another.

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