

Weekly Study Guide

The week of November 9, 2014

Daily Readings

Monday	Genesis 1:1-13	Tuesday	Genesis 1:14-25	Wednesday	Genesis 1:26-2:3
Thursday	Genesis 3:1-19	Friday	Revelation 22:1-5	Saturday	Luke 3:12-14

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: *Love Your Neighbor*

Next week's readings: Mark 12:28-31

We learned this week to see our daily work as a way to honor God's call to human beings to help the world flourish. Next week we'll read Jesus' famous command to love our neighbors and consider the challenge to love our neighbors in and through our daily work.

first lutheran church

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Group Discussion

Connect	<p>What's your favorite job that you've ever had, paid or unpaid? Why did you like it so much?</p>
Learn	<p>Read Genesis 1:26-2:3. God created human beings for some specific purposes in his garden.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make a list of the things that God says human beings are supposed to do in and for the creation?• Why would creation (pictured here as a Garden) need people to tend it?• Think about your own daily work, whatever that is. How might you think of your work as "caring for the Garden," or helping God's world to flourish? <p>Not everything in the creation story is good. The Bible's description of human origins is also very realistic about the difficulty of life in this world. Read the story of God's curse in response to human sin in Genesis 3:16-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the consequences of sin that are described in this passage?• Not all our work is fruitful all the time. How does this passage describe the challenge of fruitful work?• Have you experienced anything in your daily work that seems like the difficulty of this passage? <p>In this week's message we learned about the word vocation, which means "calling." Any job can be a vocation when someone other than yourself calls you to do it, and you do it for them rather than yourself. Human beings share a vocation, a calling from God, to care for the Garden. Do you consider your daily work to be a "vocation?" Do you have a sense that it is a response to God's call? Are you able to see how you do it for God rather than for yourself? If you struggle with these questions, discuss them with your group and let them help you see the godly value of what you do.</p>
Apply	<p>Think about your daily work. Do you think there's any way to approach your daily work in a way that better honors God's call to care for His world?</p>
Pray	<p>Pray together for the encouragement that comes from knowing that your work serves God. Pray today also for those who are struggling to find paid employment.</p>