

# Weekly Study Guide

The week of February 15, 2015

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## Daily Readings

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Monday	Matthew 10:28-33	Tuesday	John 3:1-21	Wednesday	I Peter 3:8-14
Thursday	Matthew 18:6-9	Friday	Matthew 25:31-46	Saturday	Matthew 16:13-19

*My notes on this week's readings...*

## Next Week in Worship

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**Next week's message:** *Rescued*

**Next week's readings:** Colossians 1

Join us next week as we begin a new series entitled *Rescued*, where we will be exploring how Paul's letter to the Colossian church helps us to understand what God desires to rescue us from and for in our lives in relationship with God.

first lutheran church

4000 linden street • white bear lake, mn • 55110 • 651.429.5349 • flcwb.org

# Group Discussion

Connect	<p>Do you remember when you learned about hell growing up? How did you learn about it? What questions do you have about heaven and hell?</p>
Learn	<p>One thing we find in the gospels is that Jesus didn't see a discontinuity between a loving God and the reality of hell. How do you see him holding these two realities together in the following passages?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Read Mark 10:26-33 and John 3:1-21.</b> How did Jesus change the Jewish expectation of what Nicodemus thought the Messiah was coming to do?</li><li>• Why does Jesus say someone needs to be born again to enter the Kingdom of God?</li></ul> <p>Read some of the passages where Jesus talks about the reality of hell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Read Matthew 16:13-19.</b> What promise does Jesus give the church about hell?</li><li>• <b>Read Matthew 5:22, 29-30, and 18:6-9.</b> How does the reality of hell serve as a warning to the people following Him?</li><li>• <b>Read Matthew 25:31-46.</b> Who does Jesus say hell was created for originally? How does he say the reality of heaven and hell should impact how we live on this earth?</li></ul> <p>Read a couple of the passages about how the first Christians talked about the final judgment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Read 2 Peter 3:8-14 and 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11.</b> How did the Second Coming of Christ and the final judgment serve as an encouragement to the first believers?</li><li>• How did it serve as a warning?</li><li>• How did the reality of God's future cause them to live differently in the present?</li></ul>
Apply	<p>How has the reality of heaven and hell impacted you today? What questions are you still wrestling with?</p>
Pray	<p>Spend some time praying for each other to grow in having an eternal perspective to your lives. Spend some time praying for your friends and family who have not yet come to know the saving power of Jesus.</p>