

Weekly Study Guide

The week of May 10, 2015

Daily Readings

Monday	Acts 1:1-8	Tuesday	John 1:29-34	Wednesday	James 4:11-12
Thursday	John 16:7-15	Friday	2 Timothy 1:7-15	Saturday	Luke 4:14-30

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: *Jesus Loves a Party*

Next week's readings: Luke 5:27-32

It's hard to love people you don't know. It's hard to be a witness to Jesus for people who aren't in your life. Join us next week to learn from Jesus and his first followers about building relational bridges that allow us to love our neighbors in the name of Jesus.

first lutheran church

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Group Discussion

Connect

Do you have a favorite book, movie, TV show, or restaurant? Tell your group about it.

Learn

"Witness" and "testimony" are two important words the Bible uses to describe the process of telling other people about Jesus. Read the example of John the Baptist in John 1:29-34 and Jesus' words to his disciples in Acts 1:1-8.

- What do witnesses do?
- How would you describe what John's and Jesus' other disciples were supposed to do?

Imagine a courtroom. Witnesses are not attorneys or judges. They do not argue or decide the truth. They simply describe what they have seen or experienced.

- Read James 4:12. If you were going to describe your Christian experience to someone, does it make any difference to know that it's not your job to be the judge of their faith?
- Read John 16:7-15. Jesus sometimes calls the Spirit a "counselor" or "advocate." The Spirit will prove and establish the truth about him. How would your witness to Jesus be different if you didn't think it was your job to "prove" the truth to people?

Sometimes, people reject Christian testimony. Jesus was often rejected (for example, Luke 4:28-30), Jesus' first disciples were rejected (Matthew 10:14), and the Apostle Paul was rejected around the world (2 Timothy 1:15).

- The testimony of a witness is not always accepted, even when it is true. Do you think people would always accept your testimony?
- How does it make you feel to know that people didn't even believe Jesus or his first, spirit-empowered witnesses?

Apply

How would you describe what Jesus has done or what Jesus means in your life? Can you imagine being excited to tell people about it and be a witness?

Pray

Please keep praying for your neighbors. Are there any neighborhood prayer requests to share with your group?