

Weekly Study Guide

The week of November 8, 2015

Wish to view the message again? Go to vimeo.com/flcwb. Will you be out of town soon? Watch online at livestream.com/flcwb.

Wish to ask Pastor Corey a question about today's message? Contact him at 651.429.5349 x206 or cpaxtonflcwb.org.

Daily Readings

Monday	Luke 5:27-32	Tuesday	Philippians 3:1-6	Wednesday	Philippians 3:7-17
Thursday	Romans 12:1-5	Friday	I Corinthians 12:1-11	Saturday	I Corinthians 12:12-31

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: *Finding Your Place in God's Story*

Next week's readings: Psalm 107:1-3, Luke 20:27-40

Join us next week as we continue our series, Heart of the Story, and discover how we can find our place in God's story. God has an important part for each of us to play in His story, but we can't find it alone. We discover who we are in a community—seeking to know and pour out Jesus' love to the world.

first lutheran church

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

Group Discussion

Connect

What was your best and worst experience in church as a teenager?

Learn

One of the foundational truths about Jesus' vision for church is being a "hospital for sinners." **Read Luke 5:27-32.**

- What made Jesus' vision for faith community so different than the Pharisees vision of faith community?
- What does Jesus say is the difference between the "healthy" and the "sick?"
- Why do you think admitting our "unhealthy," or need for God, to heal us is so important to our spiritual growth?
- What forces do you think work against that kind of vulnerability in communities of faith?

Read Paul's description of his spiritual journey in his letter to the Philippians and create a story board of his life from Philippians 3:1-17.

- What was Paul's life like before he encountered Jesus? What was his faith like? How did his faith impact the way he lived?
- How did his encounter with Jesus change his life? What was his faith like after Jesus?
- How does he describe his spiritual journey now?
- How is the vulnerability of the founder of the Christian movement encouraging to you?

Discuss how Paul's change of life could help you process your own spiritual journey.

- When you think about your life, when was a time you recognized your need for God at its strongest?
- When was a time you experienced participating in the "power of his resurrection" and a time you experienced participating in the "fellowship of his sufferings?"
- If you were to create a "cardboard testimony" (with a word that represents your need for God in a specific area of your life on one side and what God has done or you want God to do on the other side), what would your sign say?

Apply

Where is a place in your life you are experiencing the need for God in your life right now? Discuss the next steps Jesus might be leading you to take in pouring out his love in your life right now.

Pray

Spend some time praying for our church's next generation. Pray for them to experience more of Jesus' love and presence in their lives and grow in a desire to be his church in the world. Pray for the needs of people in your group as the Spirit leads.