

Weekly Study Guide

The week of November 15, 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.

Have a question about today's message? Contact Pastor Angie at 651.429.5349 x208 or away@flcwb.org.

Daily Readings

Monday	Psalm 107 Deuteronomy 6: 4-12	Tuesday	Deuteronomy 5:15 and 15:12-15	Wednesday	Deuteronomy 8:1-18 and 26:1-11
Thursday	Acts 2:17-39 and 7:2-53	Friday	Luke 20: 27-40	Saturday	John 8:51-58

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: *Sharing Your Story*

Next week's readings: Acts 8:26-40, Matthew 28: 16-20

Jesus is at the heart of our story of hope and joy, but sometimes it can be hard to know how to share that hope and joy with others. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us to discern and to know how to share the hope that we have within us. Learn this week about some simple ways to share that story with the world!

first lutheran church

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

Group Discussion

Connect

Are there stories that get told and re-told when you gather with family, or with a group of friends you've known a long time? Why do you think those stories get re-told so often?

Learn

Read Deuteronomy 8:1-18. When people remember the story of their history with God, how does that impact their lives today? Why is remembering the story important?

Read Deuteronomy 5:15 and 15:12-15. In both of these scriptures, these commands are given in the context of the story. "Because God has done this..., do this...". What does that say about how our lives are connected to the living God?

For an overview of the Biblical story, turn to **Acts 7:2-53** for reference if needed.

- Acts 7:2-8: What do we learn from the story of Abraham about God?
- Acts 7:30-38: What do we learn from the story of Moses about God?
- Acts 7:37-43: What do we learn about human nature from this story?
- Acts 2:22-24, 29-33, 36-39: What do we learn about God's response to our broken human nature from this story?

When we are grounded in the story of our imperfect relationship with a perfect God, who has always been pursuing his people with amazing mercy, we can begin to see how imperfect people like us can be part of his perfect story of grace through Jesus.

Read Luke 20:27-40. We can be fixated on the 'earthly' part of the story we're living and the things that shape our identities here. What does Jesus show us about what is really most important (and eternal) about who we are?

Read John 8:51-58. Jesus is giving us a picture of how God relates to human beings in his eternal timeline. God told Moses in Exodus that he is "I AM" (The God who IS). When Jesus drew us into life through his death and resurrection, he drew us into God's eternal NOW! How do these scriptures change what you feel is important about God's story?

What do you think God wants to do with your story that is eternal?

Apply

What has helped shape your identity as a child of God and part of the greater story of his love? Scripture? Prayer? Other people?

Go to heartofthestory.org to see faith stories of our congregation and to take the step of faith in sharing your own story.

Pray

Pray today for those who are in a hard part of their story, that they will know the presence of the Lord with them to bring them more deeply into his love.