

Weekly Study Guide

The week of November 22, 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 question about today's message? Contact him at 651.429.5349 x206 or cpaxton@flcwb.org.

Daily Readings

Monday	2 Corinthians 1:3-7	Tuesday	John 21:15-21	Wednesday	Philippians 3:1-7
Thursday	Philippians 3:8-17	Friday	Ephesians 2:1-3	Saturday	Ephesians 2:4-10

My notes on this week's readings...

Next Week in Worship

Next week's message: *Welcome Home*

Next week's readings: John 1:14

Join us next week as we begin a new series for the season of Advent called *Welcome Home*. At a time when we are welcoming many of our family and friends home for the holidays, we will be exploring what it means for God to welcome us home to a relationship with him and his family.

first lutheran church

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Group Discussion

Connect	<p>What is your favorite “epic” movie? Why?</p>
Learn	<p>In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul gives thanks for how the church is sharing God’s story in the midst of difficult circumstances. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does Paul give thanks for about the church’s life and witness?• How does he encourage them to see their difficult circumstances as part of God’s story?• How have you experienced (or not experienced) God’s compassion and comfort in difficult circumstances?• What are good and bad ways you’ve experienced others trying to comfort you amidst your external sufferings in the church?• Why is “facing the winter” (or owning our difficult circumstances with God) an important part of learning to share our story? <p>At the end of the gospel of John, Jesus returns to his disciples to invite them to discover an epic place in God’s story. Read John 21:15-9. What mission did Jesus give Peter?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do you think Peter felt when Jesus invited him to such an important place in His story?• Why do you think Jesus wanted Peter to face his failure?• Why do you think “facing the winter” (our honest failures, mistakes, and shame) is important for finding a way to share our stories? <p>Read John 21:20-25. How do you think comparing ourselves to others can keep us from sharing our story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is knowing Peter’s story encouraging you keeping in mind that God wants you to find your place in his story?• How does Jesus’ call to “take care of his lambs” challenge you?
Apply	<p>When you think about your story, how would you share the ways Jesus has made a difference in your life? How have you experienced his comfort or redemption from a mistake, failure, or difficult circumstance? Are there any ways Jesus is leading you to refocus on his mission?</p>
Pray	<p>Spend some time praying for each other to grow in dependence on Jesus and in confidence in God’s work in your stories. Pray that God would help you see opportunities to share his comfort and hope with others.</p>