

Weekly Study Guide

March 5, 2017

Wish to view the message again? Go to vimeo.com/gracepeoplemn. Will you be out of town soon? Watch on-line at livestream.com/gracepeople. Desire to ask Pastor Steve a question about today's message? Contact him at 651.429.5349 x215 or steve@gracepeople.church

Love Pours Out

Things I'd like to remember about today's message...

Daily Readings

Monday

Mark 8:22-38

Thursday

Mark 10:1-16

Tuesday

Mark 9:1-29

Friday

Mark 10:17-34

Wednesday

Mark 9:30-50

Saturday

Mark 10:35-52

Regular habits of private Bible reading strengthen our relationship with God and teach us how to follow Jesus. In addition to the thematic exercise above, you can use this guide each week to lead you through relevant sections of the Bible.

Group Discussion Guide

CONNECT

Share a favorite memory of your grandparents.

LEARN AND APPLY

This is the first week of a season called Lent. Lent is a season of the Christian calendar, leading up to Easter, which provides an annual opportunity to learn about and reflect on the cross of Jesus and its meaning for us. Our series in this season is an exploration of the powerful message of the cross.

- The cross is an almost universally common symbol. Where do you see crosses? Why do people use it so much?
- As we start this series, what questions, confusions, or concerns have you had about the cross? What do you hope to learn? (You might choose to share these questions with Pastors Steve or Angie, steve@gracepeople.church or angie@gracepeople.church, to help shape our learning in this series.)

Jesus taught his followers ahead of time about his impending crucifixion and its meaning for them. **Read Mark 8:31-34.**

- What did Jesus tell his disciples?
- Why do you think Peter responded as he did?
- What does it tell you about Jesus that he knew the outcome and yet didn't change his course?

Read Mark 8:35-38.

- What did Jesus tell his disciples about what it meant to follow him?
- What do you think it means to "take up your cross and follow me?" Does this mean literally dying for Jesus? Does it mean something else?

In this week's message we learned to think of the cross in connection with one of our church's core values: Love Pours Out.

- Jesus' unswerving path to the cross is evidence of his unswerving love for unworthy people. Have you or do you ever struggle to believe that God actually loves you, even knowing everything there is to know about you?
- What's a specific way that God is leading you to live and love sacrificially for someone else at this moment in your life?

PRAY

Pray for the needs of your group this week, and pray that our hearts will trust the certainty of God's love, demonstrated in the life and death of Jesus.