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Week One



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WEEK ONE – DAY ONE

Read Matthew 7:13-14

What type of sentence is this? (interrogative, imperative, declarative) What does that imply for His audience?

Who is Jesus speaking to, and what does He mean when He says, “Enter through the narrow gate”?

What is the “road to destruction” and the “road to life” that Jesus is talking about in this passage?

Jesus’ teachings here brings to mind Proverbs 14:12 which reads, “There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.” Why does that road (to destruction) appear to be so right to so many people?

Furthermore, why does Jesus mention that the narrow way is difficult and hard?

Thoughts on the following quote as it relates to this passage: *“The most comfortable type of religion is always a vague religion, nebulous and uncertain, cluttered up with forms and rituals. The more vague and indefinite your religion, the more comfortable it is. There’s nothing as uncomfortable as clear-cut biblical truths that demand decisions.” –D. Martin Lloyd-Jones*

THINK: How might you live and think differently knowing that “many” people are on the road to destruction (friends, relatives, neighbors, or co-workers)?

WEEK ONE - DAY TWO

Read Matthew 7:15-20

Why is it significant that Jesus warns about false prophets who will come immediately after the discussion about the narrow and wide gates?

What is the goal of these false prophets?

Jesus says that false prophets come to us in “sheep’s clothing.” What disguises might they wear today?

Healthy trees bear which kind of fruit?

Bad trees bear which kind of fruit?

Why is fruit bearing significant to this warning to false prophets?

What are some popular false teachings being embraced by our culture today?

THINK: Can you remember a time when you heard false teaching? What was taught and how did you respond?

WEEK ONE - DAY THREE

Read Matthew 7:21-23

What is “the day” to which Jesus is speaking?

What role does Jesus envision for himself on that day?

What must a person do to inherit the kingdom of heaven?

To prophesy, cast out demons, and do many mighty works in Jesus’ name seems like a strong, spiritual pedigree. Why would Jesus reject anyone who has done these kinds of works in His name?

Is it possible for a person to claim to be a Christian without actually knowing Christ?

According to Matthew 4:17, what does Jesus stress as the most important as it relates to this passage?

What does this passage teach us about the importance of the condition of a person’s heart?

THINK: What is the overall message? What might this message mean for your life?

WEEK ONE - DAY FOUR

Read Matthew 7:24-27

What do the wise and foolish builders have in common?

What distinguished the two builders from each other?

Why is a solid foundation important for a house? What about a solid foundation spiritually?

The rain, streams, and wind eroded the foundation of the foolish man's house causing it to come crashing down. In today's culture, what would represent a foundation made of sand?

What would represent the rain, streams, and wind?

Which man do you relate to most, and why?

THINK: Whether you are just beginning a relationship with God or have known Him for a long time, we all need to be more like the wise man in the story. What needs to change for you to be more like the wise man and less like the foolish man?

WEEK ONE - DAY FIVE

Read Matthew 7:13-29

Are you confident in which gate that you have entered - the narrow or the wide?

If you asked others, which type of fruit would they say you bear - good or bad?

Are you someone who shares with others about Jesus' return?

Examining verses 28-29, who do you give ultimate authority in your life?

Sometimes our focus gets off and we attempt to do things on our own. What's one thing you need to purge or a discipline you need to start to grow in your relationship with Jesus?

Week Two



WEEK TWO - DAY ONE

Read Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus describes His children as what in verse 13?

In what sense are Christians the “salt of the earth” using the preservation analogy?

In what sense are Christians the “salt of the earth” using the seasoning analogy?

Jesus describes His children as what in verses 14-16?

Why does light need to be elevated? What does that mean spiritually for believers?

What happens when you put light under a basket?

How does hiding our light affect the glory of God?

THINK: What does this have to do with Romans 12:2?

WEEK TWO - DAY TWO

Read Luke 21:5-11

How did the disciples respond to Jesus' prediction concerning the temple?

Why does Jesus respond with a warning instead of a direct answer in verse 8?

What two things does Jesus say will not be signs that the end is near?

What does this say about people who claim to know that the end is near?

What two things will begin to fall apart as we approach the end?

What does verse 9 say about the suddenness of the end?

THINK: Many of the signs seem to be on the rise in the world that Christ is getting ready to return. However, we cannot know for sure when the end will come, but what can you do to daily remind yourself to live each day as your last?

WEEK TWO - DAY THREE

Read Luke 21:12-19

What shift does Jesus make in verse 12?

What does Jesus promise will happen?

How quickly does this begin to happen (Acts 5:17)?

What is the purpose for this persecution?

What promise does Jesus make in verses 14-15?

Why is that important?

THINK: Betrayal by friends, relatives, or anyone is hard, if not devastating. What example does Jesus present for us about how to handle betrayal? Do you look to Christ when you feel betrayed? Are Jesus' words sobering or encouraging? Why?

WEEK TWO - DAY FOUR

Read Luke 21:7-19

WHO IS GOD:

What does this passage teach you about God?

How does believing these truths affect your life?

What does this passage teach you about us?

Why is that significant?

PRAY: Spend some time praying as you reflect on who God is and who we are.

WEEK TWO - DAY FIVE

Read Luke 21:7-19

WHAT IS GOD SAYING:

What call to action or commands are mentioned?

What is the main point or points?

Summarize the meaning of this passage in your own words.

PRAY: Spend some time praying as you reflect on what God is saying.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Week Three



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WEEK THREE – DAY ONE

Read Matthew 5:21-26

What standard does Jesus use for determining right and wrong? See also Matthew 5:17-18.

In verses 21-22, Jesus places murder and unrighteous anger in the same category. How are they related?

Is all anger sinful? See Ephesians 4:26-27.

When is anger appropriate? When does it become sinful? See Mark 3:5; Hebrews 4:3; John 2:13-17.

Jesus warns against calling someone *Raca* (an Aramaic word meaning “empty” or “stupid”) or “You fool” (verse 22). Why do you think insults such as these constitute murder in God’s sight?

What do verses 23-26 teach us about broken relationships?

Why is Jesus concerned that reconciliation and apologies be made quickly?

THINK: When have you either initiated forgiveness or had someone initiate it with you? What was the outcome?

WEEK THREE – DAY TWO

Read Matthew 5:27-30

Again, what standard does Jesus use for determining right and wrong? See also Matthew 5:17-18.

What commandment was Jesus interpreting? (5:27)

How did Jesus explain the meaning of adultery? (5:28)

How does adultery start? (5:28)

Based on Matthew 5:27-30, do you think that there is a married adult in the world who has never committed adultery in their heart?

What did Jesus suggest we do with a sinning eye? (5:29)

Why did Jesus make this radical statement about eyes? (5:29)

Where does sin ultimately lead if it is not dealt with? (5:29-30)

THINK: How can you guard yourself from falling into a temptation?

WEEK THREE – DAY THREE

Read Matthew 5:31-32

Why did Jesus need to say this about marriage and divorce?

What is the best way to think about marriage and divorce?

Who is guilty of adultery?

What does God want us to do when we feel tempted to divorce a partner?

According to Jesus, what does He seem to give as the only acceptable reason for divorce?

When can a person not divorce his or her partner?

How can adultery affect a marriage commitment?

THINK: In light of what is here about the exception clause for divorce, how does this story play into the urging of Jesus to Hosea to continue to purchase Gomer after knowing that she committed adultery? Can forgiveness be granted? Will it be easy or difficult?

WEEK THREE – DAY FOUR

Read Matthew 5:33-37

What ancient teaching did Jesus bring up?

The Pharisees had elaborate formulas for oaths, with some being binding and some not (see Matthew 23:16-20). Why was Jesus opposed to oaths?

Does this mean, for example, that we should refuse to give evidence under oath in a court of law? Explain.

Why should oaths be unnecessary for Jesus' followers?

What oaths did Jesus' audience consider especially important to keep?

How did Jesus update the ancient proverb about oaths? (5:34)

What exceptions did Jesus permit in vow making? (5:34)

Why not swear by one's own head? (5:36)

How should believers respond to questions? (5:37)

What is wrong with swearing oaths? (5:37)

WEEK THREE - DAY FIVE

Read Matthew 5:21-37

WHO IS GOD:

What does this passage teach you about God?

What does this passage teach you about us?

Why is that significant?

WHAT IS GOD SAYING:

What call to action or commands are mentioned?

Summarize the meaning of this passage in your own words?

PRAY: Spend some time praying as you reflect on who God is and who we are. Then, spend some time praying as you reflect on what God is saying.

Week

Four



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WEEK FOUR - DAY ONE

Read Matthew 5:38-42

What does verse 38 refer to when it states, “You have heard that it was said?”

What do you find most difficult about Jesus’ instructions in these verses, Matthew 5:38-42?

What is accomplished by ‘turning the other cheek’ or ‘going the extra mile’?

Why is Jesus calling us to this lifestyle?

Are we never to defend ourselves? How do we keep anger, bitterness, and resentment from springing up in us?

Has there been a time in your life that you were offended and found it difficult to offer forgiveness?

What is Jesus trying to teach in this section?

THINK: Who in our life needs the Gospel?

WEEK FOUR – DAY TWO

Read Matthew 5:43-48

What does verse 43 refer to when it states, “You have heard that it was said?”

How does loving your enemies show that you are a child of God?

Is there a difference between how you love a friend and how you love an enemy? Explain.

Describe a positive role model who demonstrated love for his/her enemies.

Who are your enemies from your past? Who are your current enemies?

What action step is the Holy Spirit leading you to take in response to your enemy?

THINK: Jesus teaches us to love our enemies with our words, actions, and prayers. Which of these three is the most difficult for you? Why?

WEEK FOUR - DAY THREE

Read Matthew 5:38-42

WHO IS GOD:

What does this passage teach you about God?

How does believing these truths affect your life?

What does this passage teach you about us?

Why is that significant?

PRAY: Spend some time praying as you reflect on who God is and who we are.

WEEK FOUR - DAY FOUR

Read Matthew 5:38-42

WHAT IS GOD SAYING:

What call to action or commands are mentioned?

What is the main point or points?

Summarize the meaning of this passage in your own words.

PRAY: Spend some time praying as you reflect on what God is saying.

WEEK FOUR - DAY FIVE

REVIEW Matthew 5:38-42

HOW WILL YOU RESPOND TO GOD:

Which truth from this passage is the most important to you today?

What practical way will you apply this truth to your life?

PRAY: Spend some time praying as you reflect on how God is calling you to respond.

Week Five



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WEEK FIVE – DAY ONE

Read Matthew 6:1-4

What specific motives did Jesus warn against?

Who can judge whether a person's actions are pure?

How did some individuals in Jesus' day publicize their generosity?

What name did Jesus give to insincere individuals? Why?

Where did people advertise their "acts of righteousness"?

What deep-seated desire prompted some people to give?

What future reward can showy givers expect?

What style of giving did Jesus command us to adopt?

Who notices when we give according to Jesus' guidelines?

What happens to those who give as Jesus told us to give?

THINK: What do you need to do to make sure your motivation is submission to God, because that is more crucial and essential for your life and faith than any personal agendas?

WEEK FIVE – DAY TWO

Read Matthew 6:19-21

How are earthly treasures limited in value?

How do they compare to heavenly rewards?

What is Jesus prohibiting when He tells us *Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth...?*

Why should we store up heavenly treasures rather than earthly ones?

Practically speaking, how can we store up treasure in heaven? (See 1 Timothy 6:17-19)

What does Jesus mean when He says, *For where your treasure is there also will your heart be?*

WEEK FIVE – DAY THREE

Read Matthew 6:22-23

Have you ever tried on someone else's glasses and noticed how it affects your vision? Explain. If not, how do you think it would affect your vision?

How are our eyes vital to our everyday life? To our spiritual life?

What analogies about the eye does Matthew mention in this passage?

Why is the comparison of light and darkness important in this passage?

React to this sentence: Like smears or smudges on glasses distort vision, when riches or external things become the focus of our lives, our vision becomes distorted. When the things we can see outweigh the eternal things that are unseen, we have spiritual near-sightedness.

THINK: How is your vision? What are your eyes focused upon? What is the Holy Spirit teaching or showing you to help give you clear vision?

WEEK FIVE – DAY FOUR

Read Matthew 6:24

How would serving two masters be difficult for a slave?

How would serving two masters as a child of God be difficult?

Why did Jesus say, in verse 24, that it is impossible to serve two masters—God and money?

What other master(s) other than money could you be serving?

What does it mean to be devoted to God?

Read verse 24 again and then consider this question—
What treasure or object in your life has the potential to sidetrack you from being obedient to God?

THINK: What about you? Who are you serving? What is Christ asking of you? He is asking you to do the same – we are not to serve two masters, but to serve Christ and Christ alone.

WEEK FIVE – DAY FIVE

Read 2 Corinthians 9:1-8

Why did Paul send some of the Christian brothers ahead of his own arrival, to the church in Corinth?

What is the reward of one who sows sparingly?

What is the reward of one who reaps generously?

What does he mean by a “cheerful giver” (verse 7)? Give some applications regarding giving.

Why did Paul exhort the Corinthians to give generously?

Some people teach that giving money to the Lord's work results in your getting more money yourself. What does Paul say about the personal benefits of giving?

How would you characterize your own attitude towards giving?

THINK: Paul encourages *cheerful* giving (verse 7). The word is the root of our English hilarious. It is the exact opposite of calculated giving under compulsion. According to the study this week, how could you become a more cheerful giver?

Week Six



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WEEK SIX - DAY ONE

Read Matthew 6:5-8

What does it mean to be a hypocrite?

Why do they like to pray in public places? What is their reward?

Explain some ways we can fall into this trap.

Where does Jesus encourage believers to pray?

Is praying out loud in public gatherings wrong? Is Jesus forbidding public prayer?

Why did Jesus promote “private prayer” so highly?

What does Jesus mean by “babble” and “many words”?

What are we to remember as we begin praying?

If God knows what we need, and He loves us, why do we need to bother asking? Is asking even necessary?

THINK: Explain some ways you can fall into this trap in your prayer life. How can you avoid this problem?

WEEK SIX - DAY TWO

Read Matthew 6:9-15

Who are we addressing in our prayers?

What does it mean, "Hallowed be your name?"

What does it mean, "Your kingdom come?"

What does it mean, "Your will be done?"

What does it mean, "Give us our daily bread?"

Why is it important for confession and forgiveness?

What is the importance of asking for guidance and protection against temptations and evil?

THINK: Is the Lord's Prayer a prayer for us to consistently pray or more of a model prayer to guide our prayer life?

WEEK SIX - DAY THREE

Read Matthew 7:7-12

What three verbs are used to describe how we should pray?

What promise from God do we have in regards to our prayers?

Does the promises from God give us a license to attempt to use and abuse our prayer life with God so that we can get anything we want from Him?

What comparison does Jesus make in verse 11? What is the significance of this comparison?

What does it mean in verse 11 when Jesus promises that our Father gives “good gifts” to those who ask him? Is God’s definition of “good” different than ours?

In verse 12, Jesus presents the Golden Rule. What is the Golden Rule? Was Jesus the first to teach it?

What do you think the world would look like if we took this command seriously? Be specific.

THINK: How is God challenging you from this week’s passage? What will you choose to do about it?

WEEK SIX – DAY FOUR

Read 1 John 5:14-17

What is the importance of confidence in the prayer life of a believer?

What promise is made to us about our prayers?

In light of these first two verses, can you explain why we do not always get what we pray for?

According to what you know about God's will and knowing what His will is, how do you think you can know how to pray God's will?

If we see a brother or sister in Christ sinning, what are we to do according to John?

Why is it important to pray for others?

What constitutes sin, according to this verse?

THINK: What is the difference between a sin to death and one not to death?

WEEK SIX - DAY FIVE

Read Philippians 4:4-9

How do you tend to deal with stress and worry in your life?

How does Paul say we should handle our anxiety?

How does Paul say that God will meet us through prayer?

Read John 14:27. How is the peace that Christ gives us different from our other attempts to find peace?

How does what we spend time thinking about affect how we feel?

In verse 8, what types of things does Paul urge us to think about?

How can you think about those types of things more often?

THINK: In 1 Peter 5:7, Peter says that we should cast our anxiety on Christ because He cares for us. What may the Lord be inviting you to cast on Him?

Week Seven



WEEK SEVEN - DAY ONE

Read Matthew 6:25-34

WHO IS GOD:

What does this passage teach you about God?

How does believing these truths affect your life?

What does this passage teach you about us?

Why is that significant?

PRAY: Spend some time praying as you reflect on who God is and who we are.

WEEK SEVEN - DAY TWO

Read Matthew 6:25-34

WHAT IS GOD SAYING:

What call to action or commands are mentioned?

What is the main point or points?

Summarize the meaning of this passage in your own words.

PRAY: Spend some time praying as you reflect on what God is saying.

WEEK SEVEN - DAY THREE

Read Matthew 6:25-34

WHERE IS THE GOOD NEWS:

What kind of person is this passage calling you to be? How do you fall short? How is Jesus your ultimate example?

What sin has this passage exposed in your life? What specific command(s) are challenging to follow? How is Jesus your ultimate solution to this sin?

What grace is being offered in this passage? Where or from whom have you sought out this grace before? How is Jesus the ultimate source of this grace?

PRAY: Spend some time praying as you reflect on the person and work of Jesus.

WEEK SEVEN - DAY FOUR

Read Matthew 6:25-34

HOW WILL YOU RESPOND TO GOD:

Which truth from this passage is the most important to you today?

What practical way will you apply this truth to your life?

PRAY: Spend some time praying as you reflect on how God is calling you to respond.

WEEK SEVEN - DAY FIVE

Read Matthew 6:25-34

HOW WILL YOU RESPOND TO OTHERS:

As you reflect on the truth or lessons learned in the passage...

- Who do you need to forgive or seek forgiveness from?

- Who do you need to encourage, thank, or serve this week?

- Who do you need to share or process this passage with?

PRAY: Spend some time praying for specific people that God brings to mind.

Week Eight



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WEEK EIGHT - DAY ONE

Read: Revelation 7:9-10

Who is speaking?

How many people are present?

Who is described as being present?

Describe the scene where they are:

What are the people doing?

What are they saying?

THINK: How does God's plan for all people change your daily life?

WEEK EIGHT - DAY TWO

Read: Revelation 5:6-8

What stands out to you in these verses?

In verse 6, how is the lamb described?

Who is this lamb?

Who takes the scroll? What does this indicate?

What is the reaction of those around the lamb when He takes the scroll?

THINK: What does this passage say about Jesus? How does that change your life today?

WEEK EIGHT - DAY THREE

Read: Revelation 5:9-10

What are the creatures and elders doing in verse 9?

How is the song described?

Describe how this is a new song:

What has the lamb done?

THINK: God desires the worship of all people. How does this change the way you look at people? Also, what implications are there for you to be involved in sharing the gospel anywhere and everywhere?

WEEK EIGHT - DAY FOUR

Read: Revelation 5:11-12

Who was praising Jesus?

How many were there?

What picture does this show us about the worthiness of Jesus?

What are they saying?

Think: What are your thoughts concerning the reaction of the creatures, elders, and the angels? Do you have this reaction toward God?

WEEK EIGHT – DAY FIVE

Refer to Revelation 5:8-12

Read: Revelation 5:13-14

What does it mean that Jesus ransomed people for God?

What does “a multitude from every tribe and language and nation” tell us about Jesus’ heart?

Read Psalm 96:1-6.

In light of what this tells us about Jesus (that He is worthy of worship from all people), what is He asking me to do?

Week Nine



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WEEK NINE - DAY ONE

Read: Romans 10:1-4

What is Paul's heart's desire and prayer?

How does he describe the people in verse 2?

In what way were they ignorant?

Seeing that Christ is the fulfillment of the law, what is the wonderful promise of verse 4?

THINK: Paul had a desire to see not only the Gentiles, those who are not Jewish, come to know Jesus, but also the Jewish people. Is there a desperate need in Montana for people to know Jesus?

WEEK NINE - DAY TWO

Read: Romans 10:13-14

What is the dilemma we see in this passage?

So does God need us? Or does He want us?

How are they to hear?

THINK: God limits himself so He can use us for the task of telling the world about Him. How does this truth impact your life? What does that mean for you this next week?

WEEK NINE - DAY THREE

Read: Romans 10: 14-15

How are the people to hear?

Those who are sent are to do what?

Read Isaiah 52:7 in light of these two passages. Why are the people's feet considered beautiful?

What is the good news, and what does it mean for the world?

THINK: Do you remember the person who first told you about Jesus? Take time to pray and ask God to bless them. Do you know people around you who have not heard? Pray for them today.

WEEK NINE – DAY FOUR

Read: Romans 10:16-17

What is the sad reality with some who hear the gospel?

What comes from hearing?

How does hearing come about?

Define Faith:

So do all faiths lead to the same God? (verse 17)

THINK: Faith only comes from one hearing the Word of Christ. What challenge does that give you today?

WEEK NINE – DAY FIVE

Read: Romans 10:13-18 and Galatians 3:2

What does this teach us about salvation?

Is there a priority for you to share this message with other people?

If God clearly seeks to limit Himself to using us to tell others about Him, how should that truth affect our lives on a daily basis?

PRAY: Ask God to help you see people the way He does (in desperate need of Him). Ask God to bring people across your path to share this wonderful truth.

Challenge: Who is in your circle of influence that you can tell the wonderful news of Jesus?

Week Ten



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WEEK TEN - DAY ONE

Read: Acts 4:8-12

What type of man was healed?

Who does Peter declare has healed him?

What does this teach us about Jesus?

How is Jesus described in verse 11?

What does Peter mean by “cornerstone” in light of reading Isaiah 28:16?

What does this teach you about God?

THINK: If salvation is only found in Jesus, how does that truth affect your relationship with others?

WEEK TEN - DAY TWO

Read: Acts 4:13-20

What is taking place in this passage?

How do Peter and John react in verses 19-20?

What does this challenge us to believe about Jesus?

Peter and John clearly had experienced and heard Jesus.
Read 1 John 1:1-4.

Below share how you have experienced Jesus:

Pray: Thank God for how He has saved you and filled you with His Spirit. Ask God for boldness!

Think: Why were Peter and John so bold? Can we be bold like them?

WEEK TEN - DAY THREE

Read: Matthew 28:18-20

What is given to Jesus in verse 18?

What are the implications of this?

In light of verse 18, Jesus commands His disciples to do what in verse 19?

What is a disciple?

THINK: The main command in this passage is to *make disciples*. In view of that truth, what are the implications for you today?

WEEK TEN - DAY FOUR

Read: Matthew 28:18-20

In verses 19 and 20, Jesus is very clear about His commands to His disciples. What stands out to you?

Jesus places an emphasis on all nations. What is the challenge for us?

What are His disciples to do when they go to other nations?

What promise does He give His disciples in verse 20?

THINK: What is keeping you from sharing Christ and making disciples? How does His command to make disciples take place in your life?

WEEK TEN - DAY FIVE

Read: Acts 1:8

We are commanded to Go! What is the promise we have in verse 8?

Who gives us this amazing power?

Because of this power we are able to be His witnesses. What is a witness?

Jesus told them they would be witnesses where?

What does this mean for you today?

Because Jesus is the only way to salvation, He has commanded us to go and make disciples and to be His witnesses around the world. How are you living out this Biblical truth today?

Week Eleven



WEEK ELEVEN – DAY ONE

Read: Psalm 111

Rewrite verse 1:

What does HALLELUJAH mean?

What tone does it set for this psalm to start with the word HALLELUJAH?

What setting is the psalmist praising God in?

How does the psalmist describe the people assembled?

Is worship different when we are alone than when we gather 'with the upright'? How so?

What are we encouraged to do in Hebrews 10:24-25?

THINK: What benefit do believers gain when they gather together for the purpose of worship?

WEEK ELEVEN – DAY TWO

Read Psalm 111.

Rewrite verse 1.

Read Deuteronomy 11:13-14.

What is the result of worshiping God with all your heart?

Read 1 Kings 14:8.

How does the author describe David?

Read Psalm 86:12, 119:10, 119:34, 119:58, 119:69, 119:145, and 138:1.

What is similar about all these verses?

Read Jeremiah 24:7.

What benefit do the people gain from returning to God with all their heart?

Think about your own worship habits.

What keeps you from engaging in ALL MY HEART worship? If a psalmist was writing about you, how would they describe your worship?

WEEK ELEVEN - DAY THREE

Read Psalm 111:1-4 again.

Rewrite verse 2.

The Message translation puts it this way: *GOD's works are so great, worth a lifetime of study—endless enjoyment!* Worship is a cycle. We consider the Lord's works. We are delighted and praise Him. In our delight, we are compelled to study Him more, and we continue to see great works.

What does your study of the Lord look like? Does it inspire a cycle or is it short lived?

Take a few moments to study the Lord's works in Mark 1:40-42. Who is involved in this story?

What was the Lord's work in this story?

What emotion is used to describe Jesus?

How was a life changed by encountering Jesus?

Praise God for His work in this story!

THINK: When have you or someone you know had a similar encounter with Jesus?

WEEK ELEVEN – DAY FOUR

Read Psalm 111:1-4 again.

Rewrite verse 3.

What comes to mind when you hear the words SPLENDID and MAJESTIC?

When you experience something SPLENDID or MAJESTIC, what kind of reaction do you normally give?

Write down four things He does that are SPLENDID and MAJESTIC.

Take a moment to praise God for His splendor and majesty.

REFLECT: Often, we think of praising God through words. What other ways can you praise God today? Through song? Using your body? Praise is a response. God's splendor should elicit a response from ALL OF YOURSELF. Try to praise God using something besides just words today. Need an idea? Try changing your posture...bowing, standing, kneeling. Try reading the lyrics of a worship song as you sing along and meditate on them.

WEEK ELEVEN – DAY FIVE

Read Psalm 111:1-4 again.

Rewrite verse 4.

He has caused His wonderful works to be remembered. The LORD is gracious and compassionate. What does the Lord cause His people to remember?

God causes His works to be remembered. Don't miss that God is acting here. Can you think of examples from Scripture when His people remembered His wonderful works?

Read Joshua 4:1-7.

What did God want His people to remember in this account?

How does remembering God's wonderful works lead people to praise Him?

Why would the next line in this psalm be 'the Lord is gracious and compassionate'?

THINK of just one of God's wonderful works in your life. Take some time to **REMEMBER** it. Thank God for the grace and compassion it took Him to cause this wonderful work.

Week Twelve



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WEEK TWELVE - DAY ONE

Read Psalm 111.

Rewrite verses 5-6:

The focus for our study this week is 'praise for His provision'. Define provision.

Make a list of what God has provided in verses 5-6.

Read 1 John 4:9. Perhaps the most important provision is found here. What has God provided for us?

God's **PROVISION** is worthy of a **RESPONSE** from us!
List 3 of God's provisions that have impacted your life in the last week.

Take some time to **RESPOND** to the Lord and His provision for you.

WEEK TWELVE - DAY TWO

Read Psalm 111:5-6 again.

The Lord's PROVISION began long ago. In verse 5, what does the Lord 'remember forever'?

Read Psalm 105:8-11. In verse 8, covenant is defined as what?

Why is it important that the Lord remembers His covenant forever?

How is God's covenant, which He remembers forever, a provision for you?

We can rejoice and praise God knowing that He makes promises and keeps them!

What is one promise that the Lord has kept in your life?

Take some time to **RESPOND** to the Lord and His provision for you.

WEEK TWELVE - DAY THREE

Read Psalm 111:5-6 again.

Today we reflect on the phrase 'SHOWN HIS PEOPLE'. God's provision is seen in His desire to show Himself to his people. Why is it significant that God has SHOWN Himself to His people?

What does He provide in showing Himself to His people?

Read Hebrews 1:1-2. In what two ways has God shown Himself to His people (past and present)?

Think about your past. Remember a time when God showed Himself to you. How did this impact or change your relationship with Him?

Is God presently SHOWING you something about Himself?

-If yes, what is He showing you and how do you need to live differently in light of this?

-If no, are you looking and listening in His direction?

Take some time to **RESPOND** to the Lord and His provision for you.

WEEK TWELVE - DAY FOUR

Read Psalm 111:5-6 again.

The following are passages that display some of the works of the Lord. Next to each passage write **WHAT** the work is and **WHY** it is powerful.

-Exodus 16:13-15

-Joshua 10:12-14

-Psalm 33:6-9

-Ephesians 2:4-5

-Philippians 2:13

How has the Lord shown the power of His works in your life?

WEEK TWELVE - DAY FIVE

Read Psalm 111:5-6 again.

Today the Lord's provision continues as we focus on INHERITANCE. What do you think of when you hear the word 'inheritance'?

What is the 'inheritance of the nations' that is mentioned in verse 6? If you need more help, read Deuteronomy 4:36-38.

Why was land an important provision in Old Testament times?

As believers, what does God promise us as an inheritance?

-Hebrews 9:15

-1 Peter 1:3-4

In Christ, we are given the ultimate provision, an eternal inheritance. How does having an eternal inheritance change how you live your life today?

Finish this week's study of God's provision by writing a prayer of thanks.

Week Thirteen



SMALL GROUP
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WEEK THIRTEEN - DAY ONE

Read Psalm 111.

Rewrite verse 7.

This week we praise His CHARACTER. The Lord is pure, blameless, and can be trusted. Look back at verse 7. What does it mean - 'the works of His hands are truth'?

Read Romans 8:28.

- Who are the two subjects mentioned in this verse?
- What is the believer's role?
- What is God's role?

If 'the works of His hands are truth' and 'all things work together for the good' how should we respond when He allows things to happen that don't always seem good?

REFLECT: Do you believe that the works of His hands are true? How will this affect the way that you live your life today?

WEEK THIRTEEN - DAY TWO

Read Psalm 111.

In verse 7, how does the psalmist describe all God's instructions?

When you hear the word trustworthy, who is one person that comes to mind? What makes them trustworthy?

Why is it vital that God's instructions be trustworthy?

The instruction of the Lord is crucial to the life of the believer. Read Psalm 119:30-32. List the action words the psalmist associates with following the Lord's instruction.

If the psalmist takes these actions with regards to God's instruction, they must be worthy of His trust.

Read Psalm 93:5. What do you learn about the Lord's testimonies from this verse?

STOP: Thank the Lord for His TRUSTWORTHY instruction and ask Him to help you follow Him.

WEEK THIRTEEN - DAY THREE

Read Psalm 111.

Remember from yesterday, the Lord's instructions are **TRUSTWORTHY**.

Read Psalm 19:7-11. Write down the phrases used to describe the Lord's instruction/decrees/commandments.

What are some of the benefits of following the Lord's trustworthy instructions?

Can you recall a time when you followed the instruction of the Lord and felt 'wise' (verse 7) or 'rewarded by keeping them'? (verse 11). Write your experience here.

REFLECT: What safeguards can you put in your life to help you to continue following God's instructions?

WEEK THIRTEEN - DAY FOUR

Read Psalm 111.

Rewrite verse 8.

What is 'ESTABLISHED FOREVER and EVER'?

What does this say about the Lord's character?

It is one thing to have the right perspective or make the right choice once or for a season of time, but God's character and His instruction are ESTABLISHED FOREVER.

In the same way, as believers we must not be fickle, but firm in our faith.

Read Psalm 62:1-2.

What are the two things that come from God in verse 1?

Why will David (writer of Psalm 62) never be shaken?

PAUSE: Ask the Lord to be your rock today!

WEEK THIRTEEN - DAY FIVE

REFLECT

Take a moment in prayer. Consider these things as you pray:

- Easthaven's Christ-like example to our community

- Pastor Daniel - his strength and humility in the Lord as he leads our church

- Growth in the Lord for our middle school and high school ministries

- The Gospel to go out from our church and be shared with our community, our country, and our world

Read Psalm 111.

Write a note of praise to the Lord. Tell Him about the aspects of His character that you admire most.

Week Fourteen



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WEEK FOURTEEN - DAY ONE

Read Psalm 111.

Let's look more specifically at verse 9. What has God sent to His people?

In your own words, write down the definition of redemption.

Psalm 111:9 is a reference to the history of Israel. Read Deuteronomy 7:7-8. What is the story of redemption that the Psalmist is referring to?

Psalm 111:9 also points to the future. Now, read Luke 1:68 and Luke 2:36-38. What do these two verses have in common?

What redemption are these verses referring to?

Read Ephesians 1:7. As believers what do 'we have', according to this verse?

The redemption that we receive is 'through' what?

The Lord has shown His desire to redeem throughout the generations! Take a moment to thank Him for shedding His blood for your redemption.

WEEK FOURTEEN - DAY TWO

Read Psalm 111.

Let's look again at verse 9. Write down four things that jump out at you from this verse.

What does it mean to be awe-inspiring?

Write down a few things that 'inspire awe' in you.

If we're honest, sometimes there are other things that 'inspire awe' in us before the Lord (ie., a big flat screen TV? New trendy boots?) Read Isaiah 40:10-15. Write down a few things from these verses that 'inspire awe.'

Pick one of the above. WHY does it inspire awe?

When we place our earthly ideas of awe-inspiring up to the greatness of our God, they pale in comparison. Read Psalm 97:1-6 and let these words guide you as you ask Him to help you see His awe-inspiring works.

WEEK FOURTEEN - DAY THREE

Read Psalm 111.

Today we focus on verse 10. Read it again and write down who the subject is.

What is the beginning of wisdom?

In your own words, what does it mean to fear the Lord?

The Holman Christian Standard Bible study materials say that fear means 'worshipful submission, reverential awe, and obedient respect to the covenant-keeping God of Israel.'

Read Proverbs 1:7, Proverbs 9:10, Proverbs 14:27, Job 28:28, & Psalm 128:4. What do these verses have in common? What are some of the benefits that come from fearing the Lord?

It is safe to say that the 'fear of the Lord' is an important part of a healthy relationship with our creator. How are you at fearing the Lord?

In the definition above, there are three elements to fearing the Lord: worshipful submission, reverential awe, and obedient respect. Which of these would you say you need the most work in?

What are some things that you can do to improve in this area?

As you wrap up, take a moment to ask the Lord to help you fear Him.

WEEK FOURTEEN - DAY FOUR

Read Psalm 111.

Today we continue our look at verse 10. Take a second to read it again.

The fear of the Lord is what?

The beginning of wisdom comes from fearing the Lord. Read Proverbs 1:7. Fools despise wisdom and what?

Read Proverbs 3:7. What should be our approach to wisdom?

Why should we not consider ourselves to be wise?

Read Romans 12:16. What does the last sentence in this verse mean? (Do not be wise in your own estimation.)

What is the common thread found in all three of the above verses (Proverbs 1:7, 3:7, and Romans 12:16)?

What is one area of your life where you need wisdom?

Take a moment to humbly submit yourself to the Lord and offer this concern to Him.

WEEK FOURTEEN - DAY FIVE

Read Psalm 111.

The second half of verse 10 is our focus today, read it again. What is the defining characteristic of those who follow His instructions?

Read Psalm 119:98. What are the two benefits of His commands?

Is there a time in your life when you followed God's directions and you became wiser or had good insight? Take a moment to remember and write about it.

As you wrap up this study of Psalm 111, take a moment to reflect.

What are three things that you learned about God or yourself that you did not know before?

What is one thing that you need to work on because of your time spent in this study?

Finish your time with prayer. Psalm 111 is an amazing reminder of the Lord's presence, character, provision, redemption, and instruction! Thank the Lord for all of these things!

