

DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

SMALL GROUP GUIDE & PRAYER JOURNAL

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HOW THE DPG WORKS

It can take just a few minutes, or you can spend an hour. Set aside a bit of your time for God. Every day, find a quiet spot, even if it's in your car before work or in bed before you close your eyes. Open this up and pray through the steps given for each day. Follow the instructions and focus as you read scripture and pray.

A SIMPLE METHOD FOR HEARING GOD

Here are 6 simple steps to use as you're reading the Bible. Take your time and spend a few minutes on each step as you hear from God.

RELAX - Find a calm place and take a few deep breaths. Focus your mind on listening for God's voice.

READ - Read the word of God. It can be just a few verses or maybe an entire chapter.

FOCUS - Center your attention on the verses and ask God to highlight parts of the Scripture to you.

RESPOND - Write down or think about what the verses bring to mind and how they move you.

REST - Let your mind flow over the truth and goodness of God's word.

RESOLVE - With joy and reverence, choose to follow what God is saying through His Scripture.

This is something you can practice every time you make room to hear God. His desire is to speak to us every day. These steps can help you to focus on his voice.

JULY

JULY 1

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, I trust you and your Word. I want to grow closer to you today and better understand your promises to me. I commit this time to you and say 'yes' to what you reveal to me during this time. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "He is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "...with me." Repeat this three times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 33:4-5

*For the word of the Lord is right and true;
he is faithful in all he does.
The Lord loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of his unfailing love.*

Luke 22:49-51

*When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, should we strike with our swords?" And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.
But Jesus answered, "No more of this!" And he touched the man's ear and healed him.*

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 33

Psalm 107:33-43

Psalm 108

1 Samuel 9:15-10:1

Luke 22:39-51

Acts 7:30-43

So What's Next? • Can you imagine what it must have been like to have been with Jesus as He was being betrayed? Think back through your life and the betrayal you've experienced. What was that like? Take a few minutes to journal thoughts about Jesus' experience and yours.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 2

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 145:8

*The Lord is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love.*

Matthew 21:31-32

Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 118

Psalm 145

1 Samuel 10:1-16

Matthew 21:23-32

Romans 4:13-25

So What's Next? • The psalmist says above that the Lord is 'slow to anger and rich in love.' What does that mean to you? What would it be like for you to be slow to anger and rich in love as well? Ponder these thoughts, and share them with a close friend.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 3

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"Lord, you are worthy of all my honor and praise. I need you today. Help me to be transformed by your presence. Reveal your will for me as I study your Word. I commit this time to you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in for 4 seconds. Exhale for 8 seconds. Identify one thing that is distracting you, burdening you, or worrying you today. Breathe in and say to yourself, "Lord...". Breathe out and say to yourself, "I lay this down." Repeat as many times as you need for each distraction, burden, or worry today. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 106:6, 8

*We have sinned, even as our ancestors did;
we have done wrong and acted wickedly.
Yet he saved them for his name's sake,
to make his mighty power known.*

Acts 7:51-52

"You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him—"

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 106

1 Samuel 10:17-27

Luke 22:52-62

Acts 7:44-8:1

So What's Next? • Sometimes we forget about the brutality of Jesus' death...he didn't just die...he was murdered! The writer of Acts shares Stephen's message to the Jewish leaders, but really, each one of us is responsible for Jesus' death. We're all sinners. It was our sin Jesus came to cover with his blood. Take a few minutes today in prayer, asking God for forgiveness of your sins, and repent (turn away from) of the sin in your life!

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 4

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, I trust you and your Word. I want to grow closer to you today and better understand your promises to me. I commit this time to you and say 'yes' to what you reveal to me during this time. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "He is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "...with me." Repeat this three times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 33:20-21

*We wait in hope for the Lord;
he is our help and our shield.
In him our hearts rejoice,
for we trust in his holy name.*

James 5:7-8

Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 33

Psalm 107:1-32

James 5:7-10

Revelation 21:1-7

So What's Next? • The theme for today's reading focuses on patience and waiting on the Lord. What is it like for you to wait? When was the last time you felt like you waited 'in hope for the Lord'? Spend a few moments journaling about waiting.

JULY 5

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 128:1-2

*Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
who walk in obedience to him.
You will eat the fruit of your labor;
blessings and prosperity will be yours.*

Acts 8:14-15

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit,

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 119:145-176

Psalms 128-130

1 Samuel 12:1-6, 16-25

Luke 23:1-12

Acts 8:14-25

So What's Next? • Spend a few minutes journaling about your thoughts on what it means to 'fear the Lord.' As you ponder, invite God to speak to you about this, and to open your heart to what it means.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 6

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"Lord, you are worthy of all my honor and praise. I need you today. Help me to be transformed by your presence. Reveal your will for me as I study your Word. I commit this time to you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in for 4 seconds. Exhale for 8 seconds. Identify one thing that is distracting you, burdening you, or worrying you today. Breathe in and say to yourself, "Lord...". Breathe out and say to yourself, "I lay this down." Repeat as many times as you need for each distraction, burden, or worry today. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 133:1

*How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in unity!*

Luke 23:23-25

But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. So Pilate decided to grant their demand. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus to their will.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalms 131-135

1 Samuel 13:5-18

Luke 23:13-25

Acts 8:26-40

So What's Next? • Where do you experience unity in your life? At your job? At home? At the kids' sports practice? Probably not! Unity is hard to come by in our current cultural climate. Spend a few minutes imagining what God's unity looks and feels like. Then, invite God's kingdom to come and bring unity to your various spaces of life.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 7

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, I trust you and your Word. I want to grow closer to you today and better understand your promises to me. I commit this time to you and say 'yes' to what you reveal to me during this time. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "He is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "...with me." Repeat this three times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 143:1

*Lord, hear my prayer,
listen to my cry for mercy;
in your faithfulness and righteousness
come to my relief.*

Acts 9:4-6

He [Saul] fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalms 140-143

1 Samuel 13:19-14:15

Luke 23:26-31

Acts 9:1-9

So What's Next? • Saul, whose name is later changed to Paul, has a pretty drastic encounter with Jesus. He sees a blinding light on the road, then hears from Jesus...after he'd already gone to heaven! Think back to your own personal encounter with Jesus. What was that like? When did it happen? Spend some time journaling your story, then share it with a friend who needs to hear the good news of Jesus!

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 8

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 104:33-34

*I will sing to the Lord all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.
May my meditation be pleasing to him,
as I rejoice in the Lord.*

Luke 23:33-34a

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 104

Psalm 137

Psalm 144

1 Samuel 14:16-30

Luke 23:32-43

Acts 9:10-19

So What's Next? • In the psalm above, the psalmist speaks of singing to the Lord. What is your worship like? Do you find it easy to sing to God? Even if your singing voice is off key, or not great...God still loves our worship! Take some time today to worship through song...whether through streaming worship music, or writing your own! God loves to hear your worship!

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 9

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"Lord, you are worthy of all my honor and praise. I need you today. Help me to be transformed by your presence. Reveal your will for me as I study your Word. I commit this time to you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in for 4 seconds. Exhale for 8 seconds. Identify one thing that is distracting you, burdening you, or worrying you today. Breathe in and say to yourself, "Lord...". Breathe out and say to yourself, "I lay this down." Repeat as many times as you need for each distraction, burden, or worry today. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 111:10

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.
To him belongs eternal praise.*

Romans 5:6, 8

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly...But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

*Psalms 111-113
Romans 5:1-11*

Psalms 146-147

1 Samuel 14:36-45

Matthew 22:1-14

So What's Next? • Jesus repeatedly says throughout the gospels, that he came not for the healthy, but the sick. Not for the righteous, but sinners. In the passage from Romans above, Paul says we're all sinners...and Christ still died for us! As you go about your day, plan 3 or 4 intentional breaks where you pray and thank Jesus for his sacrifice for us.

JULY 10

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, I trust you and your Word. I want to grow closer to you today and better understand your promises to me. I commit this time to you and say 'yes' to what you reveal to me during this time. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "He is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "...with me." Repeat this three times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 4:8

*In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for you alone, Lord,
make me dwell in safety.*

Luke 23:44-46

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

*Psalms 1-4
Acts 9:19-31*

Psalm 7

1 Samuel 15:1-3, 7-23

Luke 23:44-56

So What's Next? • Today's reading focuses on the last moments of Jesus' life. Left to die on the cross, his last words are powerful and important. The creator of the universe gives up his power and his life...for us. Spend a few moments pondering Jesus' humility, having divine power, yet yielding himself to death...for us.

JULY 11

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

*Psalms 5:7
But I, by your great love,
can come into your house;
in reverence I bow down
toward your holy temple.*

*Luke 24:5b-7
...but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'"*

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

<i>Psalms 5-6</i>	<i>Psalms 10-11</i>	<i>1 Samuel 15:24-35</i>	<i>Luke 23:56-24:11</i>
<i>Acts 9:32-43</i>			

So What's Next? • All throughout the psalms, the various psalmists speak of reverence of God. In fact, the main theme of the psalms is a deep love, appreciation, and reverence for the ways God has cared for his people throughout time. Where are you reverent in your life? Do you treat God with reverence and awe? Or do you see him as cold and callous and far off? Or do you think of him like a cosmic genie? Take a few moments to journal your thoughts, and then as you pray, invite God to increase your reverence for him!

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 12

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"Lord, you are worthy of all my honor and praise. I need you today. Help me to be transformed by your presence. Reveal your will for me as I study your Word. I commit this time to you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in for 4 seconds. Exhale for 8 seconds. Identify one thing that is distracting you, burdening you, or worrying you today. Breathe in and say to yourself, "Lord...". Breathe out and say to yourself, "I lay this down." Repeat as many times as you need for each distraction, burden, or worry today. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 119:17-18
Be good to your servant while I live,
that I may obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may see
wonderful things in your law.

Luke 24:12
Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

<i>Psalms 12-14</i>	<i>Psalm 119:1-24</i>	<i>1 Samuel 16:1-13</i>	<i>Luke 24:12-35</i>
<i>Acts 10:1-16</i>			

So What's Next? • All of the apostles were confused and bewildered at Jesus' death. They didn't think God's plan was for Jesus to die...so imagine their surprise when Jesus came back to life. What a confusing time! Imagine what it would be like for Peter to run to the tomb where he had just seen his friend be buried...only to find it empty! Journal your thoughts.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 13

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, I trust you and your Word. I want to grow closer to you today and better understand your promises to me. I commit this time to you and say 'yes' to what you reveal to me during this time. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "He is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "...with me." Repeat this three times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 18:27

You save the humble

but bring low those whose eyes are haughty.

Luke 24:45-47

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 18

1 Samuel 16:14-17:11

Luke 24:36-53

Acts 10:17-33

So What's Next? • After Jesus revealed himself to his followers post-resurrection, it says 'he opened their minds so they could understand...' With the ability of reading the whole story, we are at a huge advantage to understanding the bigger story Jesus was writing. But something beautiful happens when we invite God to speak to us and open our minds to better understand his word! Make a note for yourself today to pray this prayer every time you open the scriptures...'Lord, help me to understand what you're speaking to me today.' and see what happens!

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 14

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalms 22:26

*The poor will eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the Lord will praise him—
may your hearts live forever!*

Acts 10:34-35

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalms 16-17

Psalms 22

1 Samuel 17:17-30

Mark 1:1-13

Acts 10:34-48

So What's Next? • Did you know God has no favorites? All are welcome at God's table! Our culture tries to say that to be important, you have to be the first, the best, the prettiest, the whatever-est...but God says we're all equal...he accepts everyone the same! Take a few minutes to tell God thank you for accepting you exactly as you are, and repent for where you've made your life about the other things!

JULY 15

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"Lord, you are worthy of all my honor and praise. I need you today. Help me to be transformed by your presence. Reveal your will for me as I study your Word. I commit this time to you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in for 4 seconds. Exhale for 8 seconds. Identify one thing that is distracting you, burdening you, or worrying you today. Breathe in and say to yourself, "Lord...". Breathe out and say to yourself, "I lay this down." Repeat as many times as you need for each distraction, burden, or worry today. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 20:1

*May the Lord answer you when you are in distress;
may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.*

Mark 1:14-15

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

*Psalms 20-21
Mark 1:14-28*

*Psalm 110
Acts 11:1-18*

Psalms 116-117

1 Samuel 17:31-49

So What's Next? • Jesus spoke more about the kingdom of God than anything else in his ministry. From your experience of scripture, what does God's kingdom look like? If you're unsure, a great place to start is Matthew 5 in what are called the beatitudes. Today, spend some time praying and inviting God to bring his kingdom into your life!

CHECK IN

You've made it to the halfway point! July is halfway over, but God isn't finished speaking to you! What have you heard so far this month? Take a few moments and reflect on what God has spoken to you, and let us know. We'd love to be a part of your journey. Email SHV or Larkspur Church at dpg@shvchurch.org with the stories of what God is doing in your life.

JULY 16

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, I trust you and your Word. I want to grow closer to you today and better understand your promises to me. I commit this time to you and say 'yes' to what you reveal to me during this time. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "He is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "...with me." Repeat this three times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalms 150:1-2

Praise the Lord.

Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty heavens.

Praise him for his acts of power;

praise him for his surpassing greatness.

Romans 10:11-13

As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame." For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalms 114-115

Psalms 148-150

1 Samuel 17:50-18:4

Matthew 23:29-39

Romans 10:4-17

So What's Next? • In Romans 10, Paul reminds us that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. There are many names for God in scripture including El Shaddai, Adonai, Elohim, Emmanuel, and Abba. Using the internet, look up the different names for God and their meanings. Here's one resource: <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/god/what-are-all-the-names-of-god.html> Choose one or two that you don't normally use and call Him by those names in your prayers and conversations with the Lord this week.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 17

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalms 25:4-5

*Show me your ways, Lord,
teach me your paths.
Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my Savior,
and my hope is in you all day long.
Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love,
for they are from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth
and my rebellious ways;
according to your love remember me,
for you, Lord, are good.*

Mark 1:35

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalms 9 Psalm 15 Psalm 25 1 Samuel 18:5-16, 18:27-30
Mark 1:29-45 Acts 11:19-30

So What's Next? • Where do you pray? Today, choose a solitary location for prayer like Jesus does in the passage from Mark 1 we read above. It can be in your home or out in nature as long as you are alone and in a quiet place. Make a note of how this impacts your time with the Lord.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 18

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"Lord, you are worthy of all my honor and praise. I need you today. Help me to be transformed by your presence. Reveal your will for me as I study your Word. I commit this time to you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in for 4 seconds. Exhale for 8 seconds. Identify one thing that is distracting you, burdening you, or worrying you today. Breathe in and say to yourself, "Lord...". Breathe out and say to yourself, "I lay this down." Repeat as many times as you need for each distraction, burden, or worry today. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 26:2-3

*Test me, Lord, and try me,
examine my heart and my mind;
for I have always been mindful of your unfailing love
and have lived in reliance on your faithfulness.*

Mark 2:4-5

Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 26
Mark 2:1-12

Psalm 28
Acts 12:1-17

Psalm 36

Psalm 39

1 Samuel 19:1-18

So What's Next? • How often do you ask God to search your heart and mind while earnestly seeking His response to what He finds? In your quiet time today, ask the Lord to show you the dark places of your heart and then ask for healing over those areas of your life. Journal about this time with Him.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 19

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, I trust you and your Word. I want to grow closer to you today and better understand your promises to me. I commit this time to you and say 'yes' to what you reveal to me during this time. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "He is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "...with me." Repeat this three times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 119:41-42

*May your unfailing love come to me, Lord,
your salvation, according to your promise;
then I can answer anyone who taunts me,
for I trust in your word.*

Mark 2:15-17

While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. When the teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw him eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they asked his disciples: "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

*Psalm 38
Acts 12:18-25*

Psalm 119:25-48

1 Samuel 20:1-23

Mark 2:13-22

So What's Next? • The psalmist in the passage above trusts in God's word to help him answer his foes. What are you doing to prepare to answer those who question your faith and beliefs? You don't have to be an expert in everything Jesus, but make a list of ways you can prepare to answer the hard questions when they arise.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 20

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 37:23-24

*The Lord makes firm the steps
of the one who delights in him;
though he may stumble, he will not fall,
for the Lord upholds him with his hand.*

Mark 2:23-28

One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?" He answered, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions."

Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 37

1 Samuel 20:24-42

Mark 2:23-3:6

Acts 13:1-12

So What's Next? • Jesus reminds us in Mark 2 that the Sabbath day is designed for our rest, so make a list of 10 ways you will honor your Sabbath this year. Post it in a place where you will see it each week.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 21

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"Lord, you are worthy of all my honor and praise. I need you today. Help me to be transformed by your presence. Reveal your will for me as I study your Word. I commit this time to you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in for 4 seconds. Exhale for 8 seconds. Identify one thing that is distracting you, burdening you, or worrying you today. Breathe in and say to yourself, "Lord...". Breathe out and say to yourself, "I lay this down." Repeat as many times as you need for each distraction, burden, or worry today. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 31:2-3

*Turn your ear to me,
come quickly to my rescue;
be my rock of refuge,
a strong fortress to save me.
Since you are my rock and my fortress,
for the sake of your name lead and guide me.*

Mark 3:10-11

For he had healed many, so that those with diseases were pushing forward to touch him. Whenever the impure spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 31

Psalm 35

1 Samuel 21

Mark 3:7-19

Acts 13:13-25

So What's Next? • Sometimes we forget to ask God for a road map to navigate the twists and turns in life. Where in your current struggle do you need God to guide you? Write a prayer for His guidance on a sticky note and pray it throughout your day today.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 22

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, I trust you and your Word. I want to grow closer to you today and better understand your promises to me. I commit this time to you and say 'yes' to what you reveal to me during this time. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "He is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "...with me." Repeat this three times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 116:1-2

*I love the Lord, for he heard my voice;
he heard my cry for mercy.
Because he turned his ear to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.*

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 30
Mark 15:47-16:72

Psalm 116

Psalm 149
Corinthians 1:3-7

Zephaniah 3:14-20

So What's Next? • In the passage above, Paul reminds the church in Corinth that God has equipped and called us to comfort others. Who in your circle of family and friends could use some comforting words today? Send that person a text or email with an encouraging message.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 23

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 98:4-6

*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with music;
make music to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of singing,
with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—
shout for joy before the Lord, the King.*

Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 63 Psalm 98 Psalm 103 1 Samuel 23:7-18
Matthew 25:14-30 Romans 11:33-12:2

So What's Next? • Is it time to update your worship music playlist or create a new one? Add a new song to a current playlist or make a new playlist of the songs that encourage you to "shout for joy to the Lord" today.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 24

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"Lord, you are worthy of all my honor and praise. I need you today. Help me to be transformed by your presence. Reveal your will for me as I study your Word. I commit this time to you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in for 4 seconds. Exhale for 8 seconds. Identify one thing that is distracting you, burdening you, or worrying you today. Breathe in and say to yourself, "Lord...". Breathe out and say to yourself, "I lay this down." Repeat as many times as you need for each distraction, burden, or worry today. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 44:23-24

*Awake, Lord! Why do you sleep?
Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever.
Why do you hide your face
and forget our misery and oppression?*

Acts 13:47-48

For this is what the Lord has commanded us: "I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 41

Psalm 44

Psalm 52

1 Samuel 24

Mark 4:1-20

Acts 13:44-52

So What's Next? • Do you ever feel like God isn't paying attention to your struggles like the psalmist felt in the passage above? Commit to praying for God to silence the distractions and challenges in your life today that may be keeping you from hearing his voice above all others.

JULY 25

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, I trust you and your Word. I want to grow closer to you today and better understand your promises to me. I commit this time to you and say 'yes' to what you reveal to me during this time. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "He is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "...with me." Repeat this three times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 34:4-5

*I sought the Lord, and he answered me;
he delivered me from all my fears.
Those who look to him are radiant;
their faces are never covered with shame.*

Mark 1:16-18

As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 33

Psalm 34

Jeremiah 16:14-21

Matthew 10:16-32

Mark 1:14-20

So What's Next? • Does the idea of "fishing for people" make you uncomfortable? Jesus doesn't call us to a life of comfort, so sometimes we have to do hard things for the Kingdom. But we can start small. Choose someone today who you can begin discipling—helping them grow in their faith. Invite this person to meet you for coffee or lunch.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 26

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalms 119:57-58

*You are my portion, Lord;
I have promised to obey your words.
I have sought your face with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise.*

Mark 4:39-41

A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalms 49 Psalm 53 Psalm 119:49-72 1 Samuel 25:23-44
Mark 4:35-41 Acts 14:19-28

So What's Next? • Journal how you are feeling about a current storm in your life. Do you trust the Lord with your storm? How does that trust influence your feelings about it?

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 27

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"Lord, you are worthy of all my honor and praise. I need you today. Help me to be transformed by your presence. Reveal your will for me as I study your Word. I commit this time to you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in for 4 seconds. Exhale for 8 seconds. Identify one thing that is distracting you, burdening you, or worrying you today. Breathe in and say to yourself, "Lord...". Breathe out and say to yourself, "I lay this down." Repeat as many times as you need for each distraction, burden, or worry today. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 59: 9-10

*You are my strength, I watch for you;
you, God, are my fortress,
my God on whom I can rely.*

Acts 15:7-9

After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: "Brothers, you know that some time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

*Psalm 50
Mark 5:1-20*

*Psalms 59-60
Acts 15:1-11*

Psalms 66-67

1 Samuel 28:3-20

So What's Next? • Both passages today talk about relying on the strength of God and the work of the Holy Spirit in followers of Jesus. How are you watching for and relying on God this week? Where are you open to the work of the Holy Spirit in your life? List some ways in your notes or journal.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 28

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, I trust you and your Word. I want to grow closer to you today and better understand your promises to me. I commit this time to you and say 'yes' to what you reveal to me during this time. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "He is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "...with me." Repeat this three times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 40:1-2
I waited patiently for the Lord;
he turned to me and heard my cry.
He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
out of the mud and mire;
he set my feet on a rock
and gave me a firm place to stand.

Mark 5:32-34
But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 40 *Psalm 51* *Psalm 54* *1 Samuel 31* *Mark 5:21-43*
Acts 15:12-21

So What's Next? • What "pit" are you waiting to be lifted out of by the Lord? Spend some time today taking that request to God with bold prayers. Journal about it or even consider illustrating your pit (or struggle) with an art medium or in a poem.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 29

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 139:1-3

*You have searched me, Lord,
and you know me.
You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.
you discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.
Before a word is on my tongue
you, Lord, know it completely.
You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.*

Mark 6:11

"And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them."

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

*Psalm 55
Acts 15:22-35*

Psalm 138:1-139:23

2 Samuel 1:1-16

Mark 6:1-13

So What's Next? • How does it feel to be known by the Lord in the way written by the psalmist in the passage above? How does the knowledge of that change how you will live your life this week?

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 30

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"Lord, you are worthy of all my honor and praise. I need you today. Help me to be transformed by your presence. Reveal your will for me as I study your Word. I commit this time to you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in for 4 seconds. Exhale for 8 seconds. Identify one thing that is distracting you, burdening you, or worrying you today. Breathe in and say to yourself, "Lord...". Breathe out and say to yourself, "I lay this down." Repeat as many times as you need for each distraction, burden, or worry today. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 84:10-11
Better is one day in your courts
than a thousand elsewhere;
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
For the Lord God is a sun and shield;
the Lord bestows favor and honor;
no good thing does he withhold
from those whose walk is blameless.

Romans 12:9-10
Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalm 8 Psalm 24 Psalm 29 Psalm 84 2 Samuel 1:17-27
Matthew 25:31-46 Romans 12:9-21

So What's Next? • Paul reminds us in his letter to the Romans to honor one another above ourselves. Identify one specific way you can do that this week in one of your relationships. It can be a spouse, friend, child, or even a co-worker. Write your plan in the notes or in your journal and revisit it at the end of the week.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

JULY 31

Invitation • As you begin your time with God, take just a moment to invite Him to speak to you, both during your prayer, and through His Word. Use these words for your prayer if you need help getting started:

"God, thank you for this time together. I want to know you better and grow in my faith. As I dive into your Word today, please meet me there. Reveal yourself to me through these verses and show me how to live out my faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Be Still and Quiet • Prepare your heart and mind for this time with the Lord. Close your eyes. Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my rock." Breathe in and say to yourself, "God is...". Exhale slowly and say to yourself, "my fortress." Repeat this 3 times. When you're ready, open your eyes and begin reading the Word.

God's Word • As you read through the passage below, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you:

Psalm 56:3-4

When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

In God, whose word I praise—

in God I trust and am not afraid.

What can mere mortals do to me?

Acts 16:4-5

As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem for the people to obey. So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.

Listening • How did you hear from God in your prayer time or through these verses? Did a specific word or phrase stand out to you? Write that below:

Grab Your Bible • Dig deeper into God's Word with today's reading plan from the Book of Common Prayer.

Psalms 56-58

Psalm 64-65

2 Samuel 2:1-11

Mark 6:14-29

Acts 15:36-16:5

So What's Next? • When was the last time you gave your fears over to the Lord? As you go about your day, take all your anxieties and fears to the Lord. If you have no struggles today, simply ask for more of the Holy Spirit's work in your life. Journal about your experience at the end of the day.

Journal • Take a few moments to respond to what God is telling you today, in your own words or images.

CHECK IN

You made it! How was your month of focusing on God's word and listening to Jesus? We hope you encountered Jesus each and every day. Share your stories with SHV or Larkspur Church by emailing dpg@shvchurch.org and let us join you on your journey!

START THE JOURNEY

Maybe this month was filled with a connection to God that you've never experienced before, and you'd like to know more about who Jesus is and how he transforms lives. If so, we want to invite you to start the journey! Here's how:

Hear the good news of the Gospel

John 3:16-17

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Repent (meaning turn toward God & away from your old life) and believe

Mark 1:14-15

...Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Believe and confess

Romans 10:9-10

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

And finally, tell us so that we can celebrate with you!

Email dpg@shvchurch.org to let us know you've started the journey, or if you have any questions!