

Read - Think - Pray

14-18 February
Epiphany 6A
Prepared by: Angus Kelly

Monday

Psalm 119:1-8

Think:

'Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD.'

The Sunday before last we heard the Beatitudes of Matthew's gospel. 'Blessed are those...' or 'Happy are you who...'

Short blessings that assume certain behaviors.

These verses of this Psalm point us towards the kind of joy that comes from living life the way God would have us live it.

Pray:

All of us make our lives unnecessarily complicated by 'transgressing' God's law. Our transgressions have consequences - for us; and for those around us.

Confess your transgressions; ask for grace to move forward in God's power; hear Jesus' words spoken to you:

'My child, your sins are forgiven; Go and sin no more.'

Tuesday

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Think:

You can choose.

So often we act as if we are not responsible for our actions; but in fact - we are in control, we get to choose how we respond - but most often we decide to put off our decision one more today.

'...today I have set before you life and death.'

'Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days...'

Pray:

'...loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you.'

Pray about how you can love God more, obey God more, and hold fast to him in that - so that you would have life.

Wednesday

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Think:

(Verse 9) 'You are God's field, God's building.'

The first two readings this week have been particularly challenging; challenging us to be more faithful to the life to which God has called us.

In this reading; Paul reminds us again that we belong only to God. It is God who is growing us - who reaps the credit for putting us right.

Pray:

One thing Paul speaks about here is division within the church; pray that we might 'be one so that the world may believe.'

Give thanks for all those gardeners, farmers and builders who have nurtured you; ask God to continue the work that he has begun in you; pray for grace to become the person you were created to be.

Thursday

Matthew 5:21-37

Think:

'Let your yes be yes and your no be no.'

For me, these verses are about simplicity; the blessing of being obedient to God.

Pray:

Ask for the grace you need to live more simply.

This is not just about possessions, but about attitudes, relationships and desires.

Friday

Matthew 5:38-48

Think:

(Verse 45) '...so that you may be children of you Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.'

(Verse 48) 'Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

Often we think Christian perfection is keeping a list of laws; but in the sermon on the mount, perfection is perfect love.

Pray:

Ask God to help us to focus more on loving than anything else.

Read - Think - Pray

14-18 February
Epiphany 6A
Prepared by: Angus Kelly

Monday

Psalm 119:1-8

Think:

'Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD.'

The Sunday before last we heard the Beatitudes of Matthew's gospel. 'Blessed are those...' or 'Happy are you who...'

Short blessings that assume certain behaviors.

These verses of this Psalm point us towards the kind of joy that comes from living life the way God would have us live it.

Pray:

All of us make our lives unnecessarily complicated by 'transgressing' God's law. Our transgressions have consequences - for us; and for those around us.

Confess your transgressions; ask for grace to move forward in God's power; hear Jesus' words spoken to you:

'My child, your sins are forgiven; Go and sin no more.'

Tuesday

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Think:

You can choose.

So often we act as if we are not responsible for our actions; but in fact - we are in control, we get to choose how we respond - but most often we decide to put off our decision one more today.

'...today I have set before you life and death.'

'Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days...'

Pray:

'...loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you.'

Pray about how you can love God more, obey God more, and hold fast to him in that - so that you would have life.

Wednesday

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Think:

(Verse 9) 'You are God's field, God's building.'

The first two readings this week have been particularly challenging; challenging us to be more faithful to the life to which God has called us.

In this reading; Paul reminds us again that we belong only to God. It is God who is growing us - who reaps the credit for putting us right.

Pray:

One thing Paul speaks about here is division within the church; pray that we might 'be one so that the world may believe.'

Give thanks for all those gardeners, farmers and builders who have nurtured you; ask God to continue the work that he has begun in you; pray for grace to become the person you were created to be.

Thursday

Matthew 5:21-37

Think:

'Let your yes be yes and your no be no.'

For me, these verses are about simplicity; the blessing of being obedient to God.

Pray:

Ask for the grace you need to live more simply.

This is not just about possessions, but about attitudes, relationships and desires.

Friday

Matthew 5:38-48

Think:

(Verse 45) '...so that you may be children of you Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.'

(Verse 48) 'Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

Often we think Christian perfection is keeping a list of laws; but in the sermon on the mount, perfection is perfect love.

Pray:

Ask God to help us to focus more on loving than anything else.