

Pacific Union Church Connect (February 21 – February 27 – Lent 1 – Year 2)

A life connected to God through daily Bible reading and prayer (for more info visit: pacificunionconnect.com)

How to pray the Psalms. Read the psalm slowly, turn it over in your mind and follow the prayer point into a time of prayer.

Instructions for Bible Reading – Listen. Respond. Share. Pick one of the three readings assigned for the day (Gospel, New and Old Testament). Read the passage slowly and then answer the following questions:

Listen. What is the passage saying? What are the main points? What does it say about God? What does it say about us?

Respond. If this is God’s to me, how will I respond? Here are some possibilities: Is He moving me to do something? Is He calling me to repent? Is there an area of my life where I needed to trust him? Is God moving me to worship Him? Is there something here that makes me thankful to God?

(Scripture references are from New International Version [1984] -- NIV)

Sunday 2/21	Monday 2/22	Tuesday 2/23	Wednesday 2/24	Thursday 2/25	Friday 2/26	Saturday 2/27
<p>Psalm: 63:1-8</p> <p>Meditation: Hebrews When Jesus became incarnate it wasn't just a fieldtrip. He became fully human, with all the desires and pains we face, so that He could be a "merciful and faithful high priest." Priests were the people's connection to God, he offered sacrifices for those who came to him. A caring and faithful priest was the best gift for a community and we got the most caring, merciful, and faithful one of all.</p> <p>Gospel: John 12:44-50 New Testament: Hebrews 2:10-18 Old Testament: Daniel 9:3-10</p>	<p>Psalm: 41</p> <p>Meditation: Genesis – Joseph's reaction to his dreams is puzzling. Why, if you know that your brothers already are jealous and hate you, would you tell them about dreams you had where they are metaphorically bowing down to you? Most people would call that taunting or bragging. If you had a younger sibling who was clearly the favorite and he started telling you about these dreams, how would you react?</p> <p>Gospel: Mark 1:1-13</p> <p>New Testament: 1 Corinthians 1:1-19</p> <p>Old Testament: Genesis 37:1-11</p>	<p>Psalm: 45</p> <p>Meditation: Mark – If someone called to you while you were in the middle of something, how quickly would you stop what you were doing and go to them? If you were reading a good book, would you finish the sentence? Paragraph? Page? If you had to relocate for work, how long would it take you to pack up and move? When Jesus called, the disciples immediately dropped their nets and went to him. Could you have done that?</p> <p>Gospel: Mark 1:14-28 New Testament: 1 Corinthians 1:20-31 Old Testament: Genesis 37:12-24</p>	<p>Psalm: 119:49-72</p> <p>Meditation: 1 Corinthians – Human knowledge and wisdom has very little impact on the spread of the Gospel. Acknowledging this and coming from a place of humble testimony is how Paul says he teaches and ministers. There is nothing more frightening than being the leader in a situation and acknowledge that no amount of brain power can help you. Only wisdom from the Holy Spirit will do.</p> <p>Gospel: Mark 1:29-45 New Testament: 1 Corinthians 2:1-13 Old Testament: Genesis 37:25-36</p>	<p>Psalm: 50</p> <p>Meditation: Genesis – From the highest, most trusted position in the house to being imprisoned on false charges, Joseph's life feels like a rollercoaster, one of the super tall and twisty ones. Potiphar had no reason not to trust Joseph but even with all of the power that had been given to him, Joseph was still just a slave. At least he imprisoned him and didn't have him beaten or killed.</p> <p>Gospel: Mark 2:1-12 New Testament: 1 Corinthians 2:14-3:15 Old Testament: Genesis 39:1-23</p>	<p>Psalm: 95, 40</p> <p>Meditation: Mark – Not only does this passage show Jesus eating in the house of tax collector with other tax collectors and sinners, it also shows him asserting that he is the one they were preparing for. The fasting of John's followers and the Pharisee's disciples was in preparation for the coming of the Messiah. There's not much point in preparing for the arrival of someone who has already come.</p> <p>Gospel: Mark 2:13-22 New Testament: 1 Corinthians 3:16-23 Old Testament: Genesis 40:1-23</p>	<p>Psalm: 55</p> <p>Meditation: 1 Corinthians – "I do not even judge myself." These were Paul's words. Judging others is an epidemic, and oddly enough it is most prevalent in Christians, who should know better. This judgement does not mean that the judicial system is unbiblical, it means that calling upon yourself to judge other's actions, beliefs, or habits as bad is what is truly unbiblical, and honestly, un-Christian.</p> <p>Gospel: Mark 2:23-3:6 New Testament: 1 Corinthians 4:1-7 Old Testament: Genesis 41:1-13</p>