

Dear Readings Group Leader,

AILY BEADING

Thanks for agreeing to help out and run the readings groups every morning!

The aim of this handbook is to help you in promoting good discussion within your group and to begin the day with a strong spiritual focus.

Each morning's reading has been especially chosen to reflect the theme for the day, which carries through to the discussion groups, night sessions and meditations.

The readings also highlight the characteristics of a pilgrim, which we, like Abraham should have.

The pilgrim characteristic that we will look at each day also links very closely with the theme for the day.

We hope you enjoy discussing Gods word with your team!

Much Love in Christ, Study Week Committee.

## READING: MARK 10:13-34

EBYTHING BEHIND



ONDAY EVE

Why do you think we have to be like children to inherit the kingdom of God?



If this man knew the commandments, who/what was he?

- Why do you think he 'ran' to Christ with the question of eternal life?



What's wrong with the statement 'What shall I do to inherit the kingdom of God?'

- How are we meant to inherit the kingdom of God?



What do you think it means to take up the cross? Cp. Matt. 16:24,25

- How would we/could we deny ourselves?



What are some more examples in the bible of people being like a pilgrim, and leaving everything for God?

Eg. – Elisha – 1 Kings 19:19-21 (Elisha rich – 12 yoke oxen, yet he killed and sacrificed them etc...)

- Rahab – Josh. 6:22-25 (her and her family left Jericho to go with Israelites. In Heb. 11)

- Ruth – Ruth 1:11-18 (Ruth could've had a good life back in Moab, yet she chose to go with Naomi etc.)



# READING: MATTHEW 5:1-16 & 38-48 (CHANGE IT UPI READ AS MANY VERSES AS YOU WANT!)



IVD

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Why is being part of the family of God a good thing?

Being part of a Family'

**FIONSHIPS** 



v16 - what is the light we are supposed to shine?

- Why do you think Jesus uses the analogy of a light?



v38-42 – the ideas of giving generously & giving more than was needed was completely foreign to the believers.

How can we give generously to other people in the ecclesia, like what is described here?



Cp Acts 2:1, 46 – 'one accord'. Why is it so important that we come together as one 'accord'?



What do you think is the most important aspect of a Godly relationship?



# **READING: DANIEL 6**



Wednesday ENVELTUP TO GOD

Count/find how many times God is mentioned in reference to Daniel in this chapter. (v10, 11, 16, 20, 22, 23, 26)

Acknowledged their faith

Daniel leaves his life up to God. Do we?



v10,11 – even though Daniel knew of the decree against praying to his God, he still prayed 3 times a day.

How can we make our prayers more consistent?



Look at the decree of Nebuchadnezzar in v26 -27. Break down this statement describing God – what characteristics are in there

1. He is the living God, the Author and Giver of life; all others are dead gods.

2. He is steadfast for ever. All things change; but He is unchangeable.

3. He has a kingdom; for as He made all things, so He governs all things.

4. His kingdom shall not be destroyed. No human power can prevail against it, because it is upheld by His power.

5. His dominion is without end. It is an everlasting dominion, under an everlasting rule, by an everlasting God.

6. He delivereth them that are in danger and bondage.

7. He rescueth those who have fallen into the hands of their enemies, and pray to him for help.

8. He worketh signs in the heavens.

9. And wonders upon earth; showing that both are under his sway, and are parts of his dominion.



Any other examples in the bible that mention people who leave their life in Gods hands and acknowledge their faith in him?

- Apostles in prison

- Blind man – Luke 18:35-43 - What do you think it means when Jesus says 'Your faith has saved you?'



#### **READING: HEBREWS 12 (USE DIFFERENT TRANSLATIONS)**





How is Gods 'discipline' good for us?



Why do you think it is important to have a vision of the kingdom? (v28)

Cp. Heb. 4:16 – our vision is not something to be scared about.

 $\mathsf{Cp} \ v1,2-\mathsf{do} \ we see the kingdom as something that's joyful? Like Christ did?$ 



How is Jesus the author and finisher of our faith? (cp. Heb 2:10)



READING: LUKE 9:23-62



What do you think v24 means?



 $\mathsf{v35}$  – this is one of the only times God speaks to Jesus from Heaven.

When are the other times? (Baptism - Matt. 3:17; Luke 3:22 ; Transfiguration – Luke 9:35, Matt. 17:5; Mark 9:7

- Why is this significant?



vv 57-62 all talk about the cost of following Christ. What are some things we can do to be proper disciples of him?



What does v62 mean? (Fit= 'suitable, useful'.)

Cp. Matt. 6:34 – God is in control of our lives. He will be the same today, tomorrow and in a years' time.

- Cp. Abraham and Sarah had this attitude. It was years before they actually could see the promise God promised them – Isaac.



# **READING: PHILIPPIANS 2**

day GTHIS REAL - BEING LIKE CHBIST



v6-7 - Christ was the ultimate example of a humble, lowly servant. What are some ways we can be like this?



v2-4 refer to ecclesial life. What are some of the aspects in those verses that show good ecclesial life?



v13 - What do you think is 'Gods good pleasure?'

Cp. Luke 12:31, 32; Eph. 1:9-11



What do you think v12 means? ('fear and trembling') Cp. Psa. 2v11



v15 – 'shine as lights' – From the lessons and discussions this week, what are some ways, or positive solutions we can do to shine as lights?

Interesting point - Abraham and Sarah looked and had their eyes on a 'greater city'.

Rev. 3:11-12 – we are promised a place in 'new Jerusalem' – in Gods kingdom.

'new name' – one that we will have as part of Gods big family. Like Abraham and Sarah!

