

Based on this week's sermon...

SCRIPTURE

Write down the scripture verse(s) that caught your attention.

OBSERVATION

What do you think God is saying to you in this scripture?

APPLICATION

Personalize what you have read, by asking yourself how it applies to your life right now.

PRAYER

Write out your prayer based on what God has said to you today.

This Week's Life Journal Readings

Sunday, Mar 28

Judg. 4,5
Ps. 39,41
1 Cor. 13

Monday, Mar 29

Judg. 6,7
Ps. 52
1 Cor. 14

Tuesday, Mar 30

Judg. 8
Ps. 42
1 Cor. 15

Wednesday, Mar 31

Judg. 9,10
Ps. 49
1 Cor. 16

Thursday, Apr 1

Judg. 11,12
Ps. 50
2 Cor. 1

Friday, Apr 2

Judg. 13-16
2 Cor. 2

Saturday, Apr 3

Judg. 17,18
Ps. 89
2 Cor. 3

Sunday, Apr 4

Judg. 19-21
2 Cor. 4

THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In the Line of Fire

SUNDAY, MAR 28, 2010

SPEAKER: DOUG RHIND

Scripture: Acts 9

Not every expression of _____ is
_____ with the will of God.

Acts 9:1-2

When I saw that they were not following the truth of the gospel message, I said to Peter in front of all the others, "Since you, a Jew by birth, have discarded the Jewish laws and are living like a Gentile, why are you now trying to make these Gentiles follow the Jewish traditions? {Galatians 2:14 NLT-SE}

Acts 17:22-23

God does not respond with _____ when Christ
followers are _____ to _____.

Acts 9:3-4; Romans 8:31; Romans 8:35

I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us. {Romans 8:38-39 Msg}

God's _____ extends to even the most _____.

Acts 9:5-6 NIV

But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life. {1 Timothy 1:16 NLT-SE}

Jonah 3:6,10; John 4:9

_____ is not an _____
for fully-devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Acts 9:10-11, 13-14

Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:20 NLT-SE

For our love for God means that we obey his commands. And his commands are not too hard for us... 1 John 5:3 TEV

CLG Notes

Refer back to your notes from Sunday's sermon as you work through the following CLG material.



Paul's approach to what he deemed was a heretical sect (i.e. the Christians) was to imprison and kill off its members as a way of annihilating this potential threat to Judaism. It is disturbing to consider the crimes against humanity that are often done in the name of religion.

How do we guard ourselves from allowing the zeal for our faith in Christ to become a fanatical, intolerant and aggressive reaction towards others who reject, dismiss or oppose it?

Digging Deeper: Consider Jesus' proper practice of the virtue of "tolerance" in Luke 9:53-55. How would this inform and instruct us today? Re-examine Paul's personal credentials before he came to Christ; what was it about his background of accomplishments that would have resulted in him being so antagonistic towards Christians (Philippians 3:4-6)



Ananias' response to Saul's conversion reminds us that we need to grow in our capacity to see that everyone is not only equal in terms of their need for salvation, but equal in terms of their capacity to be reached and transformed by God's love.

What needs to change in our attitude, faith, trust and belief in God in order for this to become a reality, especially in the way we view and treat others?

Why is it so easy to want justice from God for others who sin and yet expect mercy from him when we sin?

What kinds of people do Christians tend to presume to be beyond God's reach? Why do we believe it so? What if God chose to reach them only through Christ-followers? What would the implications be for the way we treat others?

Digging Deeper: In Titus 3:1-8, Paul describes several attitudinal virtues that would affect the way we treat those who are antagonistic towards the Christian faith. List them and describe their impact.



Consider the ways you have served others.

Are you impartial in the way you would serve a fellow believer, someone who does not have faith, or even one who rejects the faith?

Missional living in today's post-modern and post-Christian culture challenges us to treat a non-believer with the same dignity, respect and understanding as we would a fellow believer. What would be the outcome of such a change in practice?

Consider the radical lifestyle change that Jesus demands of His apprentices in Matthew 5:43-48; is this really possible? Is it practical?

If we served others, especially those who we see as threats to the faith, what would the outcome be?

Digging Deeper: Consider Paul's admonition in Galatians 6:10, are there any stipulations to "doing good to all men"?