

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

Saturday, May 22

1 Ki. 8; 2 Chr. 5
Ps. 99; Rom. 3

Sunday, May 23

2 Chr. 6,7
Ps. 135; Rom. 4

Monday, May 24

1 Ki. 9; 2 Chr. 8
Ps. 136; Rom. 5

Tuesday, May 25

1 Ki. 10,11
2 Chr. 9; Rom. 6

Wednesday, May 26

Prov. 1-3
Rom. 7

Thursday, May 27

Prov. 4-6
Rom. 8

Friday, May 28

Prov. 7-9
Rom. 9

Saturday, May 29

Prov. 10-12;
Rom. 10

Sunday, May 30

Prov. 13-15;
Rom. 11

THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT NEW FRONTIERS OF FAITH

Acts 16

MAY 22/23, 2010

SPEAKER: DOUG RHIND

Acts 17: 16-23

Stay _____ with the _____ of your culture.

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. {Acts 17:16 NIV}

...men of Issachar, who understood the times and knew what Israel should do... {1 Chronicles 12:32 NIV}

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ. {Colossians 2:8 NASB}

_____ every opportunity to _____

God's message of _____.

So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. {Acts 17:17 NIV}

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. {1 Peter 3:15 NIV}

Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. {Colossians 4:5 NLT-SE}

Build meaningful _____ through engaging and relevant _____.

Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?” {Acts 17:19 NIV}

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect... {1 Peter 3:15 NIV}

Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone. {Colossians 4:6 NLT-SE}

Be gracious in your speech. The goal is to bring out the best in others in a conversation, not put them down, not cut them out. {Colossians 4:6 Msg}

CLG Notes

Refer back to your notes from Sunday as you work through this CLG material.



A great way of understanding the worldview, beliefs, values, and behaviours is by simply being around people. If we listen to others, we can learn a great deal about them in terms of what they perceive to be real, true, good and worth doing.

This will require that we cease being slaves to our culture (Rom. 12:1-3) or strangers to it (Matt. 5:14-16); but instead become a student of culture (1 Corin. 9:19-23). Jesus prayed that we not be “taken out from the world” but that we be guarded throughout our spiritual journey in the world (John 17:15 cf.; 1 Corin. 5:9-12). This presupposes that he expects us to connect with the people we are trying to reach with the Good News.

Which are you: a slave, a stranger, or a student of culture? How can we cultivate our culture-interpretation/awareness skills? Would this be a difficult assignment for you to undertake?



Growing in our our ability to discern those significant God-given opportunities to share our faith in Christ is cultivated by continual practice. The Spirit prompts us with an urge or gentle compulsion to share some aspect of our personal faith journeys and we respond obediently.

Take time to discuss how each person in your group learned how to discern and respond to that Holy Spirit prompting. Use Acts 16:6; Acts 14:9b and Mark 13:11 as a guideline for your discussion.



1 Corinthians 9:19-23 is a powerful depiction of how Paul built bridges and connecting points with others in order to share his faith. Paul’s modus operandi was simple: “...in order to win the _____ I became like _____.” This is incarnational mission in its most basic form.

Why does connecting with individuals precede having meaningful conversations with them?

Why do conversations about Christ with unbelievers outside of a meaningful point of connection prove to be unsuccessful?

If points of relevant connection with another person reduces uncertainty and increases familiarity & trust, what kind of connection points should we be seeking to establish?