

Daily Walk With God

Week 6

Week 6 Day 1

Readings: Matthew 11:25-30; Acts 13:13-26; Psalm 32; Proverbs 8:27-31; Exodus 19-20.

Focus Verse: "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

Key Concept: Preparing to Meet God (Exodus 19). Jehovah had just delivered the Israelites from Egypt, and He was about to meet them at Mt. Sinai to deliver His law to them. As they heard and obeyed extensive instructions in how to prepare to meet Him, they were impressed with the importance of reverence toward the Lord. They were to wash their clothes, purify themselves, and then stand back in awe of God. This account should cause us to examine our practices and attitudes. Has such reverence been replaced with a "come as you are" philosophy? Do we carelessly rush from our involvement with life's mundane matters to half-heartedly worship God?

Action: As you approach God in prayer today--and every time you worship Him--take time to prepare. Block out the distractions and give your full attention and reverence to the Lord who delivers us from bondage in sin.

Week 6 Day 2

Readings: Matthew 12:1-8; Acts 13:27-41; Psalm 33; Proverbs 8:32-36; Exodus 21-22.

Focus Verse: "But God raised Him from the dead." (Acts 13:30)

Key Concept: Victory Over Death (Acts 13:27-41). Despite the best efforts of men to silence Jesus, God turned their schemes into victory. In their desperation to defeat One they perceived to be an enemy, they were willing even to stoop to murder. But their drastic and disgraceful act was not enough to defeat the Lord. God raised Him from the dead. His victory offers us life--forgiveness of sins which could not be removed before. God leads us to victory!

Action: Tell others the good news of forgiveness through Jesus, the Victor over death (Acts 13:38).

Week 6 Day 3

Readings: Matthew 12:9-21; Acts 13:42-52; Psalm 34; Proverbs 9:1-6; Exodus 23-24.

Focus Verse: "Oh, magnify the Lord with me, And let us exalt His name together." (Psalm 34:3)

Key Concept: Worshiping a God Who Cares (Psalm 34). There are many reasons to glorify God. This Psalm focuses on one--God's care for us. He protects, redeems, and delivers from trouble. He brings justice to the evil and preserves the righteous. Remember the assurance of Psalm 34:15--"The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their cry."

Action: Take advantage of the privilege of being allowed to worship God. Take time today to praise Him, to pray to Him, and to listen intently to His Word.

Week 6 Day 4

Readings: Matthew 12:22-30; Acts 14:1-18; Psalm 35:1-10; Proverbs 9:7-12; Exodus 25-26.

Focus Verse: "And my soul shall be joyful in the Lord; It shall rejoice in His salvation." (Psalm 35:9)

Key Concept: The Choice to be For or Against Jesus (Matthew 12:30). Jesus clearly states here that "He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad." Jesus had just pointed out that Satan's servants do not work against Satan (vv. 25-26). The principle of a united kingdom applies equally to the Lord's house! There is no neutral ground for the uncommitted.

Action: Meditate on the reality of our life and death struggle with Satan, and resolve to give yourself wholly to Jesus.

Week 6 Day 5

Readings: Matthew 12:31-37; Acts 14:19-28; Psalm 35:11-28; Proverbs 9:13-18; Exodus 27-28.

Focus Verse: "But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment." (Matthew 12:36)

Key Concept: Elders Appointed in Every Church (Acts 14:23). Part of the development of churches in the first century was the appointment of qualified overseers (cf. 1 Timothy 3; Titus 1). God has not announced any change in the blueprint for local churches of our day. We have responsibilities in personal growth and in edifying others to grow spiritually into scripturally-organized congregations.

Action: Take steps today toward being a shepherd and/or a better sheep!

Week 6 Day 6

Readings: Matthew 12:38-50; Acts 15:1-11; Psalm 36; Proverbs 10:1-5; Exodus 29-30.

Focus Verse: "For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother." (Matthew 12:50)

Key Concept: The Family of Christ (Matthew 12:47-50). In this brief exchange, Jesus introduced a concept which baffled his audience then and now. Amidst a nation which dearly prized national and family identity, Jesus said that spiritual relationships are of greater significance than physical kinship. There is no greater relationship than the one we share if we are in the family of God. Good physical families are a blessing, but it is even a greater privilege to be counted as brothers and sisters of Jesus!

Action: Thank God for allowing you to be in His family.

Week 6 Day 7

Readings: Matthew 13:1-9; Acts 15:12-21; Psalm 37:1-19; Proverbs 10:6-10; Exodus 31-32.

Focus Verse: "So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, Says the Lord who does all these things." (Acts 15:17)

Key Concept: Mankind May Seek the Lord (Acts 15:12-21). The discussion recorded in Acts 15 was in response to the efforts of some to limit salvation to Jews. Various speakers showed that the gospel is for all. Today, such a doctrine of limited access to salvation seems almost unimaginable. Yet many are still denied opportunity to know Jesus, not because of our teaching, but because of our lack of teaching!

Action: Teach truth to all who will listen.