

Daily Walk With God

Week 13

Week 13 Day 1

Readings: Matthew 24:29-35; Romans 3:9-20; Psalm 76; Proverbs 18:13-18; Deuteronomy 1.

Focus Verse: "The first one to plead his cause seems right, until his neighbor comes and examines him." (Proverbs 18:17)

Key Concept: A Problem We Cannot Solve (Romans 3:9-20). In preceding sections Paul has developed the argument that Gentiles and Jews have sinned. He now draws some conclusions about sin. (1) All are guilty (v. 10). (2) Our guilt is our fault (v. 12; cf. v. 23). (3) We cannot earn salvation by perfect law-keeping (v. 20). By our sin, we have separated ourselves from God. We have no ability to save ourselves. Man cannot, of his own power, bridge the gap between himself and the Holy God who is over all. When we see ourselves as sinners--lost, helpless, powerless--then we are prepared to appreciate and accept the gift of salvation by God's grace.

Action: Apply the principle of Proverbs 18:17 (above). Remember that there are two sides to every story of conflict.

Week 13 Day 2

Readings: Matthew 24:36-44; Romans 3:21-31; Psalm 77; Proverbs 18:19-24; Deuteronomy 2-3.

Focus Verse: "A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city, and contentions are like the bars of a castle." (Proverbs 18:19)

Key Concept: The Just and the Justifier (Romans 3:21-26). Paul now brings his discussion of guilt to some vital conclusions. (1) All have sinned. (2) God justifies freely by grace. (3) Justification is through the blood of Christ. (4) God is just (exacting sin's penalty of death--cf. Romans 6:23). (5) He is also the justifier (paying the penalty with His own Son). (6) This sacrifice saves those who respond in faith.

Action: Thank God for salvation in Jesus Christ.

Week 13 Day 3

Readings: Matthew 24:45-51; Romans 4:1-12; Psalm 78:1-22; Proverbs 19:1-5; Deuteronomy 4.

Focus Verse: "A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who speaks lies will not escape." (Proverbs 19:5)

Key Concept: Ready for the Master's Return (Matthew 24:45-51). We are all accountable to God and may be called at any moment to answer for our actions. Yet, it is common to live as if we have forever to prepare for judgment. Many delay obedience, persisting in sin with the unfounded idea that they'll have time to repent . . . someday. The only guarantee we have for the future is that we will meet the Lord in judgment. Are you ready?

Action: Live today so that you'll be prepared to meet God. We do not have advance notice of that appointment!

Week 13 Day 4

Readings: Matthew 25:1-13; Romans 4:13-25; Psalm 78:23-51; Proverbs 19:6-11; Deuteronomy 5-6.

Focus Verse: "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart." (Deuteronomy 6:6)

Key Concept: "Teach Them Diligently to Your Children" (Deuteronomy-6:7). In the final days before his death, Moses reviewed the history of Israel's trek through the wilderness. He reminded them that God had given a law which they were to obey. He then stressed the importance of knowing God's commands and teaching them to their children. Since that time God has changed the law (Hebrews 7:12), but he has not diminished the value of a child's soul.

Action: Parents, teach your children about the Lord today.

Week 13 Day 5

Readings: Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 5:1-11; Psalm 78:52-72; Proverbs 19:12-17; Deuteronomy 7-9.

Focus Verse: "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)

Key Concept: God's Love Displayed (Romans 5:1-11). Jesus died for us "while we were still sinners." Though we had despised him by our sin, Jesus willingly bore the penalty of our iniquity. When we appreciate the depth of that love, we can better realize that He continues to offer us strength to triumph over sin. God wants us to go to heaven, and He has done all He can to help us succeed--there is no reason to fail!

Action: Thank God for His love and forgiveness. Live today in a way that will glorify Him.

Week 13 Day 6

Readings: Matthew 25:31-46; Romans 5:12-21; Psalm 79; Proverbs 19:18-23; Deuteronomy 10-11.

Focus Verse: "Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter days." (Proverbs 19:20)

Key Concept: Lay Up These Words in Your Heart (Deuteronomy 11:18-21). One of the benefits of regular Bible study is that our minds are stocked with good thoughts. If we devote some time early in the day to our study, we then have a focus for meditation all day. The things we consider in the morning will help us practice self-control all day, as we focus on glorifying God. Regular practice of listening to God's word will help us build a closer fellowship with Him, as we come to appreciate the love He has shown toward us.

Action: Study and meditate on God's word today.

Week 13 Day 7

Readings: Matthew 26:1-16; Romans 6:1-14; Psalm 80; Proverbs 19:24-29; Deuteronomy 12-13.

Focus Verse: "He who mistreats his father and chases away his mother is a son who causes shame and brings reproach." (Proverbs 19:26)

Key Concept: Proper Attitudes Toward Parents (Proverbs 19:26-27). Some children choose to disobey their parents. Some ignore their instruction. Some treat them rudely and harshly. But the children who love God also love their parents. They obey them all the time (unless their commands contradict God's--see Ephesians 6:1; Acts 5:29). They always treat them with kindness and respect. These children are blessed by God.

Action: Children, treat your parents with obedience and respect.