

Daily Walk With God

Week 46

Week 46 Day 1

Readings: John 10:1-6; 1 Peter 2:13-25; Psalm 114; Proverbs 29:1-7; Zechariah 11-12.

Focus Verse: "For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men." (1 Peter 2:15)

Key Concept: "That You Should Follow His Steps" (1 Peter 2:18-25). Jesus lived a sinless life in the midst of an evil world. That sinlessness qualified Him to be the perfect sacrifice for our sins (cf. Hebrews 10:10).

Peter stresses another benefit of Christ's sinlessness--He enables us to live for righteousness. The value of Christ's life does not end when our sins are washed away in baptism (cf. Acts 22:16). It continues as we face temptation from day to day. We draw strength from His example of patience in adversity. The writer of Hebrews describes the victory of Jesus as including: (1) Destroying the Devil, (2) Releasing us from the bondage of sin, and (3) Aiding those who are tempted (Hebrews 2:14-18).

Action: Face today's trials with the help of the perfect example of Jesus Christ.

Week 46 Day 2

Readings: John 10:7-21; 1 Peter 3:1-12; Psalm 115; Proverbs 29:8-14; Zechariah 13-14.

Focus Verse: "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep." (John 10:11)

Key Concept: "I Lay Down My Life for the Sheep" (John 10:7-21). As He describes the faithfulness of the Good Shepherd, Jesus makes an important point about His sacrificial death. He died by choice. His life was not wrested from Him by godless men. He did not die because of coercion by His Father. Jesus chose to sacrifice Himself for His sheep. His death was not the failure of a thwarted plan, but the completion of the Divine Plan.

Action: Willingly give yourself to the service of the Lord. He willingly gave Himself for you.

Week 46 Day 3

Readings: John 10:22-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; Psalm 116; Proverbs 29:15-21; Malachi 1-2.

Focus Verse: "And now, O priests, this commandment is for you." (Malachi 2:1)

Key Concept: What God Expects of His Priests (Malachi 2:4-9). Since all Christians are priests (cf. 1 Peter 2:5), we can learn from God's expectations of Levitical priests:

"... so he feared Me and was reverent before My name. The law of truth was in his mouth, and injustice was not found on his lips. He walked with Me in peace and equity, and turned many away from iniquity. `For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge. . . ."

Action: Walk with God in peace and equity. Work to turn others away from iniquity.

Week 46 Day 4

Readings: John 10:31-42; 1 Peter 4:1-11; Psalm 117; Proverbs 29:22-27; Malachi 3-4.

Focus Verse: "Be hospitable to one another without grumbling." (1 Peter 4:9)

Key Concept: "Be Hospitable to One Another" (1 Peter 4:9). Modern technologies make it increasingly possible for people to live in social vacuums. Television and video games rob us--and our children--of opportunities to talk to others. More than ever, we need to obey Peter's instruction to be hospitable without grumbling. We can't do much to help others know the Lord if we don't know them.

Action: Make plans today to invite someone over for a meal or an evening to get better acquainted.

Week 46 Day 5

Readings: John 11:1-16; 1 Peter 4:12-19; Psalm 118:1-14; Proverbs 30:1-6; 1 Chronicles 1.

Focus Verse: "It is better to trust in the Lord Than to put confidence in man." (Psalm 118:8)

Key Concept: Trust in the Lord (Psalm 118:1-14). As humans have advanced in understanding the physical world, many old superstitions have been swept away. Some people have swept Jehovah out with the myths of pagan gods. Perhaps more than ever, strong faith in God is under attack. We must remember that, in all the advances of modern science, the God of heaven has not been dethroned. It still "is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man."

Action: Remember that God answers what science cannot!

Week 46 Day 6

Readings: John 11:17-27; 1 Peter 5; Psalm 118:15-29; Proverbs 30:7-14; 1 Chronicles 2-3.

Focus Verse: "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time." (1 Peter 5:6)

Key Concept: "Be Clothed with Humility" (1 Peter 5:5-11). Our society exalts individuals and often rewards arrogance and pride. God expects us to resist such temptations as we display humility. Humility is important in our relationships with God, families, brothers and sisters in Christ, neighbors, and peers at work and school. We must never forget that we need God. When we appreciate that dependence, it is hard to look down on others!

Action: Ponder Peter's prayer: "To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 5:11)

Week 46 Day 7

Readings: John 11:28-37; 2 Peter 1:1-11; Psalm 119:1-16; Proverbs 30:15-20; 1 Chronicles 4-5.

Focus Verse: "As His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue." (2 Peter 1:3)

Key Concept: Remembering the Past/Forgetting the Past (2 Peter 1:5-11). Peter's encouragement to develop spiritual maturity is filled with awareness of the past. He remembered how he had often stumbled because of immature faith, incomplete knowledge, and inadequate self-control. He tells us that we can do better, if we will follow his instructions to develop our character. If we ignore his advice, we are forgetting our own past. When we return to sin, it is because we do not appreciate the terribleness of sin or the value of salvation.

Action: Add the qualities of the divine nature.