

## **YOUR WEEKLY WALK DEVOTION: Nov. 8-14**

*Weekly e-mail devotion based on the sermons of the past week to help you in your walk with the Lord.*

*Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called. (Eph. 4.11)*

*It is the vision of Bethel Baptist Church to be the life of Christ that reaches from our community to the ends of the earth with the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

### ***Devotions this week:***

Monday - Tuesday: devotions from the Sunday morning sermon, "The personality of worship" (Matt. 5.23-24).

Wednesday – Thursday: devotions from the Sunday evening sermon, "Is the cross enough?" (Acts 15.1-35)

Friday-Saturday: devotions from the Wednesday evening Bible study, "Greater and stronger" (Dan. 7.15 – 8.27)

Sunday: devotion on gathering from the upcoming sermon from Ps. 150.

### **Monday, Nov. 8**

*Matt. 5.23: Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you.*

OUR APPROACH TO WORSHIP. So often we rush into a worship service either because we have just come into the church building or we are coming from Sunday School. We rush into a worship service and give no thought to the condition of our heart. Jesus taught a fundamental truth about worship in this verse: our heart must be in the right place *before* we can worship.

*ASK GOD TO HELP YOU TAKE TIME TO MAKE SURE YOUR HEART IS PREPARED FOR WORSHIP.*

### **Tuesday, Nov. 9**

*Matt. 5.24: leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.*

OUR ADVICE ABOUT WORSHIP. The command Jesus gave about worship is vital: first, make amends with whomever you may be at odds with, then you can return and worship. With these instructions Jesus made a statement: the condition of our heart *for* worship is more important than worship itself.

*TO RECONCILE MEANS TO MEND WHAT HAS BEEN BROKEN. MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS IN YOUR LIFE THAT MAY BE HINDERING YOUR WORSHIP.*

### **Wednesday, Nov. 10**

*Acts 15.11: But we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, in the same way as they also are.*

PETER DEFENDED THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE CROSS. There was a controversy in the early church about circumcision. Some in the church stated circumcision was necessary for salvation and this caused a great debate. Peter stood and made a clear statement about the sufficiency of the cross: it is God's grace through faith in Jesus that saves us, not the work of man.

*PRAISE GOD TODAY FOR HIS SAVING AND TRANSFORMING GRACE THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST.*

### **Thursday, Nov. 11**

Acts 15.31: when they had read it, they rejoiced because of its encouragement.

THE CHURCH DELIGHTED IN THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE CROSS. A letter was sent to the church at Antioch, and read before the church, which proclaimed circumcision was not necessary for salvation. The church rejoiced because they were afraid a barrier was being put up that might prevent some from being saved. The cross of Christ broke down all barriers that might have prevented sinful man from being saved.

*PRAISE GOD TODAY THAT BECAUSE OF THE CROSS THERE ARE NO BARRIERS BETWEEN THE SINNER AND GOD.*

**Friday, Nov. 12**

Dan. 8.3: Then I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns were long, but one was longer than the other with the longer one coming up last.

EARTHLY KINGDOMS COME AND GO. Daniel 8 teaches us about a vision that Daniel had. Daniel's vision consisted of earthly kingdoms that competed against one another for world domination. In the end, however, it is God's kingdom that is eternal and will last forever.

*EARTHLY KINGDOMS COME AND GO, GOD'S KINGDOM IS ETERNAL AND EVERLASTING.*

**Saturday, Nov. 13**

Dan. 8.25: And through his shrewdness he will cause deceit to succeed by his influence; and he will magnify himself in his heart, and he will destroy many while they are at ease. He will even oppose the Prince of princes, but he will be broken without human agency.

GOD WILL PREVAIL. Regardless of how powerful earthy kings and kingdoms may become, God is all-powerful and will prevail. God is in control of history, and all history is moving towards a definite conclusion in the future. The conclusion of history is the completion of God's plan and will.

*PRAISE GOD TODAY THAT HE HAS A PLAN AND IS IN CONTROL OF HISTORY.*

**Sunday, Nov. 14**

Ps. 150.1: Praise the Lord! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty expanse.

WE GATHER AS A CHURCH TO PRAISE GOD. Throughout both the Old and New Testaments, the Bible teaches us the value of gathering as children of God to praise God. Through gathering we are encouraged, comforted, and equipped to serve the Lord in a sinful world. Your presence in worship is a statement of your support of the local church and its ministries. When we remove ourselves from gathering, we are robbing ourselves of a vital connection with other brothers and sisters in Christ.

*MAKE A COMMITMENT TO REGULARLY GATHER WITH OTHER BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST.*