



THE ROCK
STUDENT MINISTRIES
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March 30 – April 6
Weekly Devotions & Announcements



Sunday:

Sunday School – 9:30 am

Worship – 10:45 am

Wednesday:

The Rock Wednesday – 6:45pm

BIG EVENTS:

{NEAR}

Splash Missions - May 23-24

Summer Camp – June 2016 (sign up now)

Roatan Trip – July 9-16 (**\$200 now due**)

Buffalo Mission Trip – July 18-22, 2016 (**deadline April 10**)

The Hope & Prayer

The hope of this devotion book is to provide the opportunity for students and adults to spend time with God in His Word and through prayer. There are many great devotion books available to us and we are thankful you have chosen to journey through God's Word with this particular one. We hope and pray that students and adults take this opportunity seriously and become intentional in the time they devote to Him each day. We believe if this happens our walk with Him will strengthen.

The Plan – ABIDE 2015/16

This year we are going through the most beautiful story in the world on Wednesday nights. The story of the Bible is one of romance, jealousy, envy, pride, grace, mercy, power, humility and so much more. There is no way we could ever hope to cover every detail but we do seek to cover the high points on Wednesday and fill in the in between during the week through our devotions.

It is so important that you get on dive into these devotions with us as we seek to know what the Bible is all about and see how it helps us to know our God and follow Him.

Each devotion has a date so if you happen to miss a day or two the best thing to do is jump in on that date. We've set up the devotion to where you can use Saturday and Sunday as catch up days.

Above all we want you in the Word of God. We realize this is the best one but still it's a devotion written to gather the people of God around the Word of God. We hope and pray you'll join us as we dive into the story of the Bible this year!



ONE TO ONE



The ONE to ONE method is a great tool for personal use but also in reading the Bible with others. Our heart at the Rock is to help lead you to know Christ and follow Him. One way we can do this is to help you learn how to read the Bible.

This is also a great tool that will strengthen you to lead Bible studies at school or on the mission field. Don't shy away from this...jump in and become a student of the Word which will lead you to living a life that brings God much glory!



Eye:

- what do you see?
- what sticks out?
- what are things we have to talk about?



Question Mark:

- what is hard to understand?
- if you could ask the author a question?



Heart:

- what is the main idea?
- what is the heart of the passage?
- what is the one thing God is teaching us?



Arrow:

- what do we do from hearing this passage?
- how do apply the truths that this teaches us?
- how do I behave in light of the truth of this passage?

Who can you begin reading the Bible with in this 1 to 1 style?

We mentioned the 10/40 in the sermon this week. Hopefully the information below will help you understand it a bit better and also lead us in how we can get involved in what God is doing around the world.

Where is it and what is it? The people who are lost in the 10/40 Window are not "more lost" than your neighbor or family member who does not know Christ. But, they are "**unreached**" in the sense that they have not had an opportunity to hear the Gospel. The issue is not their lostness, but their access to the Gospel. People can be unevangelized without being unreached. There are people in the United States that have not heard the gospel, but they could if they wanted to. Most people living in the 10/40 window couldn't find out about Jesus even if they wanted to! These are unreached people who do not have access to the gospel.

There are over 3.6 billion unreached people in the world today. Of those 3.6 billion people, 88% live in or near the 10/40 window. Only 2.17% of these unreached people live in North and South America combined! "As far as unreached people groups, an estimated 2.91 billion individuals live in approximately 5,626 unreached people groups are in the 10/40 Window. Also, the top 50 least evangelized megacities are all in the 10/40 Window! That fact alone underscores the need for prioritizing 10/40 Window Great Commission efforts." [1]

This area of the world is so unreached for several reasons. First, these people do not live in a spiritual vacuum. The world's major religions began in this part of the world and are firmly entrenched there. In the 10/40 window there are 724 million Muslims, 787 million Hindus, and 240 million Buddhists. Along with that, many of the countries in this region are oppressive to Christianity. Regardless of these facts, Jesus declared that, "the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." The biggest reason this part of the world is so unreached is because there is a lack of Christians willing to go to these places.

It is estimated that only 3.3% of foreign **missionaries** today are working to reach these unreached people. The other 96% are working in unevangelized, but not unreached areas.

HEAD TO THE **JOSHUAPROJECT.NET** to find out how you can partner in the Gospel with other and make a difference around the world for the sake of the Gospel. One way we do this is through our work with ONE VERSE.



The Gentiles – otherwise known as us

Up until this point in Scripture the gospel had not gone to the gentiles. Much of this was because Israel was God's chosen people. The early church was only concentrating on telling the good news to the Jews. This was all about to change.

Read through Acts 10 and work through the ONE TO ONE method to dig and discover. Yes, we could give you all the answers but you'll remember and appreciate it more if you dig and find these on your own.

In Short what we find is Peter having a dream, it was given by God to show and lead him to take this good news to the nations.

Q1 – What does Acts 10 say about the Gospel and who it's for?

Q2 – What does Acts 10 say or teach us about God?

Q3 – What does Acts 10 teach us about our ourselves?

Q4 – What should our response be after reading Acts 10?

Q5 – What ultimately happened in Acts 10? Was God faithful to His calling or did Peter's worst nightmare come true?



THE CALL

Have you ever received an important call? I have...sometimes they are something I've looked forward to while other times I've been scared to death.

In Acts 10 we saw Peter receive a call like this and here in Acts 16 it's Paul who receives the call. Both calls were crazy good but crazy scary.

By scary I mean they had some uncertainty to them. Kind of like a plan that you weren't sure would work. Thankfully it was God who was doing the calling.

But still this call needed to be met with boldness. Thankfully Paul was bold and set out on His way to Asia....to the nations.....with the Gospel.

Keep reading the story....when Paul arrived to the first city what did he do?
READ ACTS 16:11

Who did he meet?

What did he do?

What was the result?

I'll let you figure out some but the result was the church at Philippi. This is the place and church he would later write Philippians to. Pretty neat really.

This call that Paul received in Acts 16 would send Him on the journey of his life. If you have maps in the back of your Bible it has maps for Paul's missionary journey's. He is the pioneer for missions.

Thankfully Paul went and thankfully others went to share the Gospel. Now it's our turn. Will you join in this work?

For further resources pertaining to mission don't forget to check out joshuaproject.net.

Saturday – catch up or reflection

Saturdays are meant to use as catch up days or extended times of reflection where we revisit some truths of God's Word. Did you miss anything, hurry through or simply miss a day? Use today to ensure you didn't miss one thing or possibly just go deeper in His Word. We offer 5 days but of course the goal is that each day we are spending time with Him, in His Word.

What does it mean to Reflect?

By reflection we mean thinking a little more on what we've seen or read throughout the week. A good way to do this is by asking some questions:

1. What sticks out from your time in the Word?
2. What are some things I need to continue to dwell on?
3. What did I learn about God this week?
4. What did I learn about myself this week?
5. What is something I need to work on in the future?
6. What would make my time in the Word better?

If you desire to read something new we'd encourage you to read through Psalm 119

Sunday is a day of rest so enjoy the day of worship!



At least it's all easy!

Somewhere we've gotten the idea that serving and following God is easy and never brings any issues.

I've got stories of opposition and you probably do to. But let's consider Paul for a moment. I mean God is starting and causing this movement in the early church. Surely they would have it easy right? Surely Paul would have clear sailing as he worked day and night for the Gospel. Well we'd be wrong to think that.

As we think through this passage, 2 Cor. 11:16-33 what all do you see?

What is the attitude in which Paul is saying these things?
Is he bragging on all he has been through?

Look at verse 30 again. What does He say? Write it down.

What does our heart boast about?

What are we looking to get out of sharing the Gospel?

Where are we willing to go for no recognition?

What are we willing to go through to promote the Gospel?

At the end of the day we trust in and follow Christ. We come to the point to where He is our only hope and greatest treasure. We trust and obey.

I pray for this heart and I also pray this is your heart.

All the while we seek Him together...building up one another to arrive at a place where we can say with one voice....I will boast in nothing but Christ!

Tuesday, April 5

Colossians 1:1-14

The prayer for you and the church

Paul never traveled to Colosse, the people to whom Colossians was written. But he did send people there that took the gospel and started the church.

When Paul hears of struggles there and their faith he write them.
I want us to think through and listen to His words to them.

It's great encouragement to us and really great wisdom as well.

Read through Col. 1:1-14

(feel free to read the entire chapter)

What do we see?

Who is he writing to?

Who is he thanking?

What is he praying for?

What does it all mean?

What do you think God wants us to know after reading COL. 1?

What do you think God wants us to do after reading it?

Surely it's more than just reading?

How do you think the people reading this the first time responded?

Is it really that different for us?

I love how Paul ends Col. 1...maybe finish by reading it and then praying that God would expose to you how you are to respond to His Word.



Back where we started

God started something amazing in Acts 1:8.

From the beginning we've said the Bible is a story.

It's main line is this: **God working in His creation for his glory.**

As we've continued I feel we've needed to add a line to that.

After seeing Christ come on the scene we added "through Jesus."

Now we see the church and then we saw the Spirit.

So really at this point in the Bible we see the main line or idea broaden.

God working in His creation for His glory, through Christ, through the Church and through the Spirit.

This is the Bible.....and it all started in Acts 1.

I think it'd be good to go back and read this.

Imagine the excitement, fear and anticipation as the followers of Christ were curious as to what was next.

I don't think any of them would have expected what followed.

I'm not sure they would have followed had they realized how it would go.

But we do know they were faithful...most of them...(ACTS 5)

Thank God for His grace and sending.

SO questions for you:

1. How do you fit into this story?
2. How has the Gospel come into your life?
3. How are you taking the Gospel out with you?
4. Do you discount people who you don't think deserve to hear it?

How is Acts 1:8 being lived out in your life? What needs to change?

How should respond to knowing what God is doing in the world?

ACTS 8:1

Main Idea:

Nothing will stop God from working and doing all He desires

2 Huge things we learn and see in the scattering of the Church:

1. GOD IS ALWAYS W_____

- Rainbows, Lollipops and gumdrops
- GOD KNOWS!!! (EXODUS)

2. GOD IS ALWAYS W_____ because God is F_____ to His own Cause

QUESTIONS:

1. How is my life different because of the Gospel?
2. How much do I trust that God will accomplish all He desires?
 - in my life - in the life of others - in His creation
3. Do I live my life in a way that pursues God's plan or runs away from it?
4. How much do I pray for the nations who have yet to hear the name Jesus?
5. Am I more concerned about God's cause or my own agenda?
 - how is this seen in my life?