

Personal Spiritual Development 5

Being The Family of God

Week Five: Daily Scripture Reading

Monday	John 1:9 -18
Tuesday	John 3:1 - 8
Wednesday	Romans 8:9 -17
Thursday	Romans 14:10 -23
Friday	Philippians 2: 1- 3
Saturday	1 Timothy 3:14-16
Sunday	1 John 3:1-10

One day as Jesus was praying the disciples watched. When He was finished they came up with a great request; “Lord, teach us to pray as John also taught his disciples” (Luke 11:1) Jesus modeled a prayer for them that would change their whole thinking about prayer and about God. He said, “When you pray say: Father, hallowed be Your name, Your Kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.” As you think about this statement, it certainly turned their world upside down. For starters; No Longer was GOD exclusive to the Hebrew people. Here Jesus indicated that God was open to all people from all societies and communities to come to “OUR FATHER.” This prayer begins by setting a stage for understanding the inclusiveness and family atmosphere this New Kingdom will have. Jesus establishes several foundational aspects in these few words - God is OUR Father; there is a cost to building a Family Relationship; and being a part of a Family. Even further there is something very unique and exciting to have full access to God’s Family.

Questions to consider as you read each daily scripture reading.

1. Who do you know that was adopted into a family? How are they accepted?
2. What are some of the a. similarities; b. differences; between our physical and spiritual birth?
3. How does it feel as a family member to have one of your family to act as if they do not belong to your family in public?
4. How do think God feels when we act like we do not know Him when we are in public?
5. Why do you think God is so interested in us being a part of His Family?
6. What are some of the barriers that hinder you/us from acting like family at church?
7. What can we do to help develop/encourage “*Family members*” who have stopped acting like family, come back into the family?