

Club 78 Quiet Times - Winter 2008

These holidays we would love for you guys to get stuck into reading the bible and getting to know God more. We have given you a bunch of readings and questions (like a mini bible study) that you can do by yourself every day or every weekday or whatever suits you best. Remember to pray before and after each time you sit down to read the bible. Find somewhere quiet where you wont be interrupted and spend 15 minutes or so thinking about God. If you have any questions, pray, then ask your leaders next term...

DAY 1

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 1:1-6

1. This is a letter. Who wrote this letter and who is he writing it to?
2. From verse 3, what blessings have we received?
3. When did God choose us and what were we chosen for (verse 4)?
4. What connection do we have to God if we have been predestined (which means chosen)?
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God for choosing people to be his sons (and daughters) and for the blessings we have received. Ask that God will help you apply what you have learnt to your life.

DAY 2

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 1:7-10

1. Redemption means we have been brought back into a relationship with God. How has this happened and why was it necessary?
2. Remember that Grace means Gods riches at Christ's expense. How has God shown us his grace?
3. What has God "made known" to us? (verse 9)
4. What do you think Paul is referring to when he talks of "when times have reached their fulfilment"? (verse 10)
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God that we can have a relationship with God through his grace. Ask God that you can begin to see what that will look like in your life.

DAY 3

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 1:11-14

1. How are we chosen and how are we "for the praise of his glory" (verse 11)?
2. What was heard when we were included in Christ (verse 12)?
3. What are Christians marked with?
4. What is its purpose?
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God that we can have a relationship with God and that we receive his Spirit as a reminder of our eternal life.

DAY 4

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 1:15-23

1. What about the Ephesians does Paul give thanks for?
2. What things does Paul ask God for on behalf of the Ephesians (verses 17-18)?
3. In verse 19, Paul mentions the great power of God. What things in verses 19-23 are an example of God's power?
4. What place does Jesus have in this demonstration of God's power?
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God for the faith of the Ephesians. Pray that we can recognise God's power in our own and others lives.

DAY 5

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 2:1-10

1. What were people like in the past before they are Christian? Look at the verses 1-3.
2. In verse 4, what was the thing that led to a change in our lives?
3. How can we be saved? Verse 5 to verse 8.
4. What are we not saved through? (verse 9)
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God for his love and his grace that allows us to have a relationship with him. If you haven't accepted Jesus, think about whether you want to ask God to make you alive through Jesus.

DAY 6

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 2:11-16

1. Before Jesus, Jews were only able to enjoy a relationship with God, and the Gentiles (people who were not Jews) were not included. What happened because of Jesus to those who were separated from God (verse 13)?
2. What has Jesus gotten rid of? (verse 14 and 15)
3. What does verse 15 say was Jesus' purpose in destroying these things?
4. Why do you think its important that Jesus has now made God open to all people?
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God for Jesus and that through him all people can have a relationship with God.

DAY 7

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 2:17-22

1. What did Jesus preach to both Gentiles (those who were far away) and Jews (those who were near)?
2. Paul is writing to mainly Gentiles, so they were not traditionally followers of God. What place do they have in God's family? Verse 19.
3. What foundation is God's family, the church, built on? Verse 20.
4. What part do Christians play in the church 'building'? (verse 21-22)
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God that through Jesus all people can now be friends with God. Ask God to help you learn where you fit into God's family and building.

DAY 8

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 3:1-13

1. Paul explains that God has revealed a great mystery. What is this mystery? (verse 6)
2. How did Paul become a 'servant' of the gospel and what does verse 8 say is his specific purpose?
3. What was going to be made plain to everyone through Paul preaching to the Gentiles?
4. What can we do "in him and through faith in him" verse 12?
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God that Paul told Gentiles about Jesus and pray that you can remember you can always trust God through faith in Jesus.

DAY 9

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 3:14-21

1. What is the reason Paul decides to pray for the Ephesians?
2. List the things Paul prays for in verses 16-19.
3. How much can God do for us (verse 20)?
4. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God for his love and how that shapes our faith. Pray that you will trust God and know how much he can do for you.

DAY 10

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 4:1-16

1. What are the things Paul says are involved in "living a life worthy of calling we have received"? (verses 2 and 3)
2. This passage talks about the parts that make up the body of Christ, which includes all Christians. List all the things that have unity in the body of Christ from verses 4 to 5.
3. What are the different roles that people can have and what is the purpose of that? Verse 11-12.
4. How does the body of Christ grow (verse 16)?
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God that we can be a part of the body of Christ and ask that God will help you to see what part you have to play.

DAY 11

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 4:17-24

1. What are the Gentiles separated from and why? (verse 18)
2. How have the Ephesians come to know Christ? List all the things in verses 21-24.
3. Do these things sound familiar? Have you come to know Christ this way yet?
4. If we know Christ, what must now happen in our lives regarding our mind and self? (verses 23-24)
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God that we can know Christ through the bible and ask that God will help you to change your life and put on your new self for God.

DAY 12

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 4:25-5:2

1. What does verse 25 teach us about lying?
2. What does verse 26 teach us about anger?
3. What does verse 28 teach us about stealing?
4. What does verse 29 teach us about what we say?
5. Who are we to be imitators of?
6. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage? Read through verses 31 and 32 and see what you might need to work on in your life.

Pray and thank God that he guides us in how we should be living if we are his children. Ask God to help you work on those areas in your life where you struggle to live the way God wants you to.

DAY 13

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 5:3-14

1. What three areas does Paul refer to as being not acceptable for Christians to take part in? (vv3-5)
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2. What can we be sure of for immoral, impure or greedy persons? (verse 5)
3. In contrast, how are Christians to live? (verse 8)
4. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God we can receive eternal life if we turn away from our lives and live for God. Ask God to help you live in the light.

DAY 14

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 5:15-21

1. What are we being careful of?
2. How are we to live and why?
3. If we are not foolish, who's will are we living by?
4. Verse 19 and 20 talk about singing praises to God to each other and in our hearts. What does this show?
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God that we can praise him! Ask God that he will help you to live by his will.

DAY 15

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 5:22-33

1. What role do wives have in a Christian marriage? (verses 22 and 24)
2. What role do husbands have in a Christian marriage? (Verses 25-28)
3. What parallel does Paul give relationships in marriage? (verses 23, 32-33)
4. Therefore, what role does the church towards Jesus? (verse 24)
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God for the example of marriage as the relationship between Christ and the church. Ask God to help you submit to Jesus' loving rule.

DAY 16

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 6:1-9

1. How are children instructed to live? (verses 1-3)
2. What are parents instructed to do or not to do? (verse 4)
3. How are slaves instructed to live? (verse 5-8)
4. How are masters and authorities instructed to rule over their slaves? (verse 9)
5. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God for the loving instruction that he gives to all groups of people. Ask God to help you live the way you should be.

DAY 17

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 6:10-20

1. How does the armour of God help us? (verse 11)
2. Who is the enemy of God and his people?
3. List what each piece of armour can do for us as we fight on God's side.
4. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from this passage?

Pray and thank God that he has given us the necessary armour to help us fight the devil. Ask God to help you be strong in the Lord and his power.

DAY 18

Pray that God will help you to understand his Word.

Read Ephesians 6:21-24

1. Why is Tychicus being sent to the Ephesians?
2. How has Paul encouraged the Ephesians (and all Christians) in their faith?
3. Look back over all your quiet time studies and reflect on what you have learn about God and what it means to live as a Christian.
4. What can we learn from God and our relationship with him from looking at Ephesians?

Pray and thank God for Paul's letter to the Ephesians and ask God to help you continue to think about living for God in every part of your life.