March 13 | Sunday Gospel of John - Jesus' Farewell Words, Part 2

Read <u>John 15:9-17</u> Note: this week's selections are longer than usual to support the goal of reading through the book of John. Grab an extra cup of coffee and see how far you can get!



14 | Mon – Source | Read <u>John 15:1-17</u>

When we stay connected to Jesus, His life can flow through us to bless others. If we remain in Him, we will live fruitful lives. So what does it look like, in practical day-to-day terms, to 'remain' in Jesus? What could you do today that would help you 'remain' in Jesus? Just for today.

15 | Tue – It might be hard but so worth it! | Read John 15:18 - 16:3

Jesus is being very clear about the hardships that will come because we choose to follow Him. John understood these words. His own brother, James, was executed by Herod (Acts 12:1-3). While most of us will not face death because of our allegiance to Jesus, we can face disbelief, ridicule or mockery. Don't be discouraged. Stick with Jesus.

16 | Wed - Not alone | Read John 16:4-16

Jesus had only hours left to live. He knew what devastation his death would bring and He tried to prepare them. Instead of telling his disciples to 'buck up,' He acknowledged their grief and promised to send the Holy Spirit to be their counselor and comforter. What a gift! Do you need advice about the challenges you are facing? Do you need comfort in the face of loss or discouragement? Talk it over with the Holy Spirit. He is ready to help.

17 | Thu - Facing the future | Read John 16:17-33

Facing arrest and execution, Jesus said, "I have (past tense) conquered the world." How could He have such confidence, knowing what lay ahead? Can you allow Jesus to give you the same confidence in the face of whatever problems and challenges life throws at you? He promises that whatever we ask in His name, we will receive. What do you need today?

18 | Fri - No regrets | Read John 17:1-19

What a wonderful chance to see Jesus interacting with his Father in prayer! His teaching and healing ministry was over and death lay ahead. He had done the work God had given him to do. Are you making wise choices today about the work God has called you to do? Even if it is difficult work, you have a wonderful Source of strength. There is joy in serving.

19 | Sat – Unity | Read <u>John 17:20-26</u>

How humbling to hear Jesus praying for us in verse 20! Praying that we would be brought into complete unity. If Jesus believed it was important enough to pray about, it certainly should be important to us. Are you experiencing that God-given unity with other believers? Is there someone you might need to make things right with? Don't wait.

March 20 | Sun – The Arrest, Trial and Crucifixion of Jesus



Hastings United Methodist Church