

DAILY READING PLAN

Gap – Week of March 26, 2017



Day 1 – Luke 16:19-31

- As we move through the week we'll be breaking this passage down into smaller sections, but taken as a whole, are you more inclined to see this as a story about what happens when we die or as a story about what happens when we're fully living?
- How can we see this not as a story about a particular person in a particular place at a particular time and more a story about all people in all places at all times?

Day 2 – Luke 16:19-21

- These three verses illuminate a great disparity between someone with so much and someone with so little. Where do you see this in your own daily experience?
- Is this a story about the huge gaps that exist between the rich and poor, the powerful and powerless, between lives that matter and lives that don't? Does it give us any insight about how we should approach these gaps?

Day 3 – Luke 16:22-24

- What do you make of the idea that the rich man, even from Hades still demands that Lazarus, the poor man, "fetch him some water?"
- Do we have a responsibility to help people in need? Do you personally have that responsibility? Are the marginalized or oppressed people in our society our problem? Why or why not?

Day 4 – Luke 16:25-26

- Is the rich man's failure to share, his failure to truly see the intense poverty and suffering sitting at his gate, his only problem in the story?
- It's been said that the rich man was dead, but he hadn't died yet. How would you explain that?

Day 5 – Luke 16:29-31

- How would you answer the questions: Who are you and what are you doing here?
- Meditate on this: You are the presence of Christ in the world. Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ looks with compassion on the world. Yours are the feet with which Jesus walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which God blesses all the world. You are here to reach across the gap – the chasm into the life of someone in need. You are called to be the hands, the feet, the eyes, his body—the body of Christ, because Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

PRAYERS

Pray for: Molly, Elizabeth, Diane, Thomas, Kendra, Dale, Thomas, Leslie, Grant, Mrs. McHugh, Jim, Ellen, Don, Joe, Liz, Leon, Nathan, Sharon, Naomi, Donna, Bill.

Pray for those with long-term illness: Sandra Jundt, Stella Mae Aaby, Harold Johnson, Phyliss Dybsetter, Janice Wake, Karen Axeen, Gloria Swanson, Chloe Checco, Jean "Yaya" Welch, Tim Ivers, Corey "Lovely" Samuel, Greg Wendorf, Vicki Nordaune, Bob Pelton, Emma Olson, Kerstin Bryall, Kathy G., Kate Drost, Evan Marian, Judy Wenner, Kurt Gartland, Dan Ward, Gavin Lyman, Judy Knutson, Bobbi Braun, Jen Cockerill, Mark Reinsmoen, Carissa Vincent, Adele Schoen, Sandy Brunen, Karin Fredricson, Lorna Hansen, Amy Hansen Rimington, David Odegard, Judy Furstenau, Duane Thoms, Sandy Robertson, Tami Allen, Bernie Wagnild, Maria Hurni, Julia Nicol, Doug and Carol Silkey, Bryan Akkerman, Greg Stofer, Ed O'Connor, James Alsip.

Prayers of sympathy and support: Fred Schrader & family, on the loss of his daughter, Darby; the family of Roxy Stafford, as they mourn her loss; Bruce & Paula Becker & family, on the loss of Paula's brother-in-law, Larry Thompson.

Pray for those serving in the military: Colin Heintzeman, Maurice McKay, Dave Booth, Josiah Ellingson, Jason Wilck, Jason McClure.

One Church campaign prayer focus: Lord, have mercy on us and empower us to have mercy on all those we encounter. Amen.

If you would like to be prayed for: 1) Fill out a Connection Card at the tables in the Sanctuary or Welcome Desk 2) E-mail your request to prayer@popmn.org 3) Contact Jody Slaughter, jslaughter@popmn.org or 952-898-9312