

DAILY READING PLAN

Week of February 12, 2023

Extraordinary Love

John 15:9-13



Day One: Read John 13: 1-5 | *Before the Passover celebration, Jesus knew that his hour had come to leave this world and return to his Father. He had loved his disciples during his ministry on earth, and now he loved them to the very end. It was time for supper, and the devil had already prompted Judas, son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had given him authority over everything and that he had come from God and would return to God. So he got up from the table, took off his robe, wrapped a towel around his waist, and poured water into a basin. Then he began to wash the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel he had around him.*

Imagine being in the upper room with Jesus during the Last Supper. As Jesus washes the disciple's feet they are transformed by his loving act of service. What loving act of service has transformed you and helped you experience God's extraordinary love?

Day Two: Read John 15:9 | *I have loved you even as the Father has loved me. Remain in my love.*

What are some ways you seek, or would like to be intentional about, remaining in God's love?

Day Three: Read Romans 8:38 | *And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love.*

Allow yourself to be more aware of times you try to control or put conditions on yourself or others as to whether we are deserving of God's love. When those awareness's surface, just notice, without judgement, and remind yourself of this promise of scripture and be mindful of God's unconditional love.

Day Four:

What are some intentional practices that will help you best see how you experienced God's love at the close of each day? (ex. Allowing the beauty of a sunset or anything in nature to remind you of God's love) Is there someone you can begin to share these reflections with on a daily basis and start that practice today?

Day Five: Matthew 1:22-23 says that the birth of Jesus by the Virgin Mary is to “fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel' (which means, God with us)”

Think and journal about experiences of being truly WITH another, without helping, fixing or advising; without thinking of yourself as beneath or above another. How does this reflection inform and inspire you to positioning yourself toward God's extraordinary love?