

Prayer Calendar

May 2021

Bible Reading Plan

This prayer calendar accompanies the Bible Reading Plan throughout May. Our scripture readings cover the readings of II Corinthians, Chapters 5-13, Galatians, Chapters 1-6 and Acts, Chapter 1-6. I hope you will use this Prayer Calendar as a companion to your daily bible readings and they both will be a blessing to your continued spiritual formation and discipleship.

Saturday, May 1

Rest | Today breathe in the day and give thanks. Rest in God's love through leisure and activities that restore your soul and feed your spirit.

Sunday, May 2

Reflect | Reflect on the scriptures you read last week. What stood out to you for further study, reflection and thought? In what ways will you incorporate your discoveries and understandings of these texts into your life?

Monday, May 3

2 Corinthians 5:17 | So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All of this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.....
~ Lord, it is amazing to think that we are new creations! We can confidently leave the past behind and reconcile what is past to Christ who makes us new. We give our thanks and praise. Now, help us leave what is past, behind so we might embrace a new life with you.

Tuesday, May 4

2 Corinthians 6:13 | In return – I speak as to children – open wide your hearts also.
~ Lord Jesus, Paul invites us to open our hearts to forgiveness and reconciliation. Yes, unless we come to you with open hearts and a willingness to allow your love to work within us, we stay in our old patterns and ways of thinking. Lord, help us to be open to your forgiveness and love. Break open our stubbornness and those places that stay closed and barricaded against your grace.

Wednesday, May 5

2 Corinthians 7:1 | With promises like this to pull us on, (I will be your God and you will be my people), dear friends, let's make a clean break with everything that defiles or distracts us, both within and without. Let's make our entire lives fit and holy temples for the worship of God.
(The Message)
~ Gracious God, help us today to take an inventory of our lives. Show us the places within our hearts and minds that are strongholds of stubbornness and self-will. Help us acknowledge these barriers to a new life with you and a deeper more fulfilling relationship with your people.

Thursday, May 6

2 Corinthians 8:1 | We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia, for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

~ Christ Jesus, we are inspired by the generosity of others, especially those who have so little and give so much. Help us take that inspiration, faith and encouragement into our own lives and step into a new place of trust in you. Show us how our generous giving is multiplied in your kingdom.

Friday, May 7

2 Corinthians 9:7 | Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

~ Lord, generous giving is a matter of attitude and what we hold on to for security. As in Paul's time, we need and use money to sustain our lives. As in Paul's time, the church is called upon to share out of our abundance to provide assistance to those in need. Help us, in our new life with you, become cheerful and joyous in our giving.

Saturday, May 8

Rest | Today breathe in the day and give thanks. Rest in God's love through leisure and activities that restore your soul and feed your spirit.

Sunday, May 9

Reflect | Reflect on the scriptures you read last week. What stood out to you for further study, reflection and thought? In what ways will you incorporate your discoveries and understandings of these texts into your life?

Monday, May 10

2 Corinthians 10:7 | Look at what is before your eyes. If you are confident that you belong to Christ, remind yourself of this, that just as you belong to Christ, so also do we.

~ Loving Lord, often we don't look at our life as we live in the ordinary day in and day out of our routines. We don't see our belovedness or the belovedness of others, we forget. Help us today to remember and act like we belong to Christ, and that others, all over the world, no matter how different from us, also belong to Christ. We are all part of the family of God through Jesus Christ.

Tuesday, May 11

2 Corinthians 11:4 | For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you submit readily enough.

~ Holy One, sometimes we are swayed by beguiling messages that are shiny and catch our eye with their excitement and flurry. We are easily distracted and sometimes we are drawn off the path of discipleship without even being aware we are ensnared by the glitter of the world. Help us stay focused on the message of love,

mercy, forgiveness and grace through Jesus Christ and leave the rest by the side of the road.

Wednesday, May 12

2 Corinthians 12:8 | Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, (thorn in Paul's flesh) that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness."

~ Healing God, this text is familiar to us, so many of us who suffer from illness, debilitating health conditions, chronic pain and long physical and mental suffering. We do not know what the thorn in Paul's side was, but we do know, like us, he cried out to God for healing and freedom from this suffering. Help us consider this word from you and try to understand that our sufferings can draw us closer to you, more dependent upon you and not our own strength. You provide the strength to endure and thrive in spite of our limitations.

Thursday, May 13

2 Corinthians 13:14 | The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

~ Great God, this blessing offers us a word of love and hope today. Carve this blessing upon our hearts and help us take it with us into the world today as a gift of your grace to others.

Friday, May 14

Galatians 1:11-12 | For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

~ Great God, you revealed to Paul the gospel, through the risen Christ, who gave himself for our sins to set us free in this present evil age. Open our minds and hearts to your scriptures so we too, may truly understand the grace and goodness of the gospel message, God is love.

Saturday, May 15

Rest | Today breathe in the day and give thanks. Rest in God's love through leisure and activities that restore your soul and feed your spirit.

Sunday, May 16

Reflect | Reflect on the scriptures you read last week. What stood out to you for further study, reflection and thought? In what ways will you incorporate your discoveries and understandings of these texts into your life?

Monday, May 17

Galatians 2:10 | And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law.

~ Holy God, we know that we are saved by faith and not by doing or not doing certain things – all law – but still we put conditions on our salvation and the salvation of others. Help us be assured we are loved as we are, for who we are in Christ Jesus.

Tuesday, May 18

Galatians 3:24-26 | Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

~ God of Grace, it is enough to have faith in the healing, forgiveness and mercy of Christ Jesus as his followers. It is enough to know we are children of God through faith. Yet, we insist on trying to make our relationship with you hard and conditional. Forgive us.

Wednesday, May 19

Galatians 4:6-7 | And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba Father!" So, you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

~ Holy Spirit, teach us to listen and learn to hear the voice of God in our lives. Keep us aware we are not slaves of a master but heirs to a loving Father, made possible through Christ Jesus. I will still my body and soul today to listen to your voice.

Thursday, May 20

Galatians 5:15 | For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

~ Loving God, help us today to be loving, kind and merciful toward one another. We look for ways to bite at one another to fight and argue. This is not the way of the Gospel, but the way of our selfishness.

Friday, May 21

Galatians 6:2 | Bear one another's burdens and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ.

~ Loving Spirit, help us remember we are not alone and as we are part of the family of God, we are to share in one other trials, suffering and challenges. We confess, sometimes we are not willing to share in another's burdens or even share our own burdens for fear we will be judged. Help us remember to bear one another's burden is an act of love.

Saturday, May 22

Rest | Today breathe in the day and give thanks. Rest in God's love through leisure and activities that restore your soul and feed your spirit.

Sunday, May 23

Reflect | Reflect on the scriptures you read last week. What stood out to you for further study, reflection and thought? In what ways will you incorporate your discoveries and understandings of these texts into your life?

Monday, May 24

Acts 1:14 | All these (disciples) were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

~ Lord, it is good to gather with your disciples to worship you and to pray. You call us together and with one voice we praise your name. Keep our hearts connected in unity of faith and practice to reflect your love.

Tuesday, May 25

Acts 2:37 | When the crowd heard this, they were deeply troubled. They said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?"

~ Loving God, we come to you today asking, what next? What direction should we go? Where are you leading me? What should I do? Take away our fear and replace it with trust that you are leading me every day.

Wednesday, May 26

Acts 3:6 | But Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but I have I give to you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk."

~ Almighty God, you empowered, Peter through your Holy Spirit to heal and restore. This power of love and forgiveness is greater than any sum of money. Help us remember it is with the same Holy Spirit that you empower us to heal and restore in the world.

Thursday, May 27

Acts 4:34-35 | There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

~ Generous God, in this early church you placed within each person's heart a deep desire to share and provide for others who had little so all had enough. Create a generous and loving spirit within our hearts so we too, may find generosity a common practice in our church.

Friday, May 28

Acts 5:12 | Now many signs and wonders were done among the people through the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico.

~ Holy One, it is through our unity of spirit and deep desire to serve you through the power of the Holy Spirit that we are able to join you in your great works. Thank you for empowering us to reach others for Christ and to assist in the healing of our souls.

Saturday, May 29

Rest | Today breathe in the day and give thanks. Rest in God's love through leisure and activities that restore your soul and feed your spirit.

Sunday, May 30

Reflect | Reflect on the scriptures you read last week. What stood out to you for further study, reflection and thought? In what ways will you incorporate your discoveries and understandings of these texts into your life?

Monday, May 31

Acts 6:1 | Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews, because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food.

~ Gracious God, the challenges of being together in community do not end. Help us strive toward the interests of others and not our desires alone. Keep us faithful to the task of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

All scripture is taken from the NRSV

This prayer calendar is designed to aid you in your daily life of prayer.

Read the scripture for the day over and over, out loud if possible. As you read, listen with an “ear of the heart” to a word or phrase that strikes you.

Reflect on that word or phrase asking yourself the question: “What is God saying to me through this word or phrase at this time?” Spend time in silence with this scripture, mulling it over in your mind and heart.

Allow God to speak to you in the silence. Offer a prayer out of your reflection.

Thank God for whatever you received in the silence of your prayer and take that with you through your day.

First Methodist Conroe
4308 W. Davis St.
Conroe, TX 77304
www.fumc-conroe.org