



75th Anniversary Weekly Devotionals Week 2 (Sept 24—Oct 1)

Each week, we will provide 5 days of Bible reading to guide you as you pray and meditate on the Bible passages and topics we're studying together as a church family. You can use the S.O.A.P. method (S.O.A.P. journals available at the Info Center) or any method you choose.

Who's Your One?

God calls all of us to "go and make disciples" (Matt 28:19-20). That means we all have responsibility to share the gospel with the people God has put in our lives. Do you have a "One"? If not, will you pray God shows you your "One" this week?

DAY ONE: Read Mark 2:1-12. Note your 3 favorite details. What do they tell you about our mission to "go and make disciples"?

- Read 2:1-12 again. Put yourself in the paralytic's place. Imagine the conversation with your friends. Look around as you are lowered. See Jesus' face as you realize you are healed.
- Meditate on your own conversion story. Feel the awe and wonder that God would forgive your sins. Consider writing a thank you note to the "friends" God used to bring you to Him.

DAY TWO: Read Acts 1:1-8. List the actions Jesus takes. How do these encourage us in our witness? - Read 1:8 again. The verb "you will be" is a simple statement of fact grammatically. We all ARE witnesses, one way or another. What kind of witness is your life giving?

- Extra Credit: if your "ends of the earth" is an active social media presence, what do your words and behavior testify to?

DAY THREE: Read Colossians 4:2-6. What are Paul's prayer requests? Think about the fact that Paul asks for prayer. Have you asked others to pray for your "One"? Do you have "others" to ask? Now might be the time to join a Life Group.

- Read 4:2-6 again. What are Paul's instructions to the Colossians? Read 4:6 in the MSG and NLT versions (there's an app for that). Think about your favorite meal. How does preparing and or enjoying that meal inform your witness?

DAY FOUR: Read Matthew 9:1-13, which is a parallel account to this week's message text. Look again at 9:8. Considering the context, why do you think Matthew followed Jesus?

- In that day's culture, eating with someone was to accept them. What is Jesus' revealing about himself by sharing a meal with Matthew?
- In 9:13, Jesus quotes Hosea 6:6, a verse the Pharisees would know. In what ways might we communicate that our faith is about sacrifices, rather than mercy? Could this be why we can't get an audience for our witness?

DAY FIVE: Read John 3:16-18, noting what it says about condemnation. Jesus doesn't condemn us, because the law already has. If this is Jesus' posture towards a lost world, what can we learn about how we share the gospel ("good news")?

- Read 3:16-17 again. Maybe you've already memorized John 3:16. Consider memorizing 3:17 as well.
- Write down the ways God has shown his love for us. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you today opportunities to salt your speech with the truth of that great love.