

NEW CITY DAILY DEVOTIONAL FOR WEEK OF 11/9/2020-11/13/2020

The following content is based on the message on 11/8/20 at New City Church in Phoenix, AZ. It is not meant to be a full synopsis, but rather a resource to help you analyze and apply the main ideas. To use this devotional effectively, please listen to the message found at <http://newcityphx.com/sermons/>.

MONDAY // FELLOWSHIP WITH JESUS

Read 1 John 1:1-4. John highlights Jesus by saying that he personally saw Jesus, touched Jesus, and heard Jesus. Knowing Jesus isn't just a mental assent. It is living in fellowship with Him. John experienced that fellowship with Jesus; and we can experience that fellowship as well. The Gospel proclaims that Jesus is life so that you might share in that life, not just know about it. He is life and our only hope of real salvation. We are able to experience the benefits of the life that Jesus gives through fellowship with Him.

The truth of Jesus must penetrate the heart in order for it to sprout new life.

- *In what areas of your fellowship with Jesus would you like to grow?*
- *Set a timer for two minutes. Reflect on the love of Jesus.*

TUESDAY // DYING TO OUR OWN IDENTITY

Read Galatians 2:15-21. Paul tells us that we have to die to ourselves and then share in the life of Jesus. In order to die to ourselves, we have to look to Jesus as our identity rather than the things of this world. Even the good things in this world can become someone's identity. We constantly need reminders that our identity is in Christ. This is what it means to walk in the light. We share in our relationship with Jesus by having fellowship and communion with Him. We don't have to earn our identity with Jesus, but we are invited into fellowship with Him because God loves us.

God wants to have fellowship with us.

- *Reflect on how you find identity. What are some of the ways that you try to find your identity in things of this world?*
- *Set a timer for two minutes. Ask God to speak to you about His desire for fellowship with you.*

WEDNESDAY // COMMUNION WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-13. God wants to have communion with us. We know this because of all that Jesus did to prove His love to us. However, Jesus also sends His Spirit to be present with each of us. Sometimes you might feel the presence of the Spirit. Other times you might not. But God wants us to persistently seek Him. We can meditate on God's word knowing that God is speaking to us. Other times, the Holy Spirit may speak to us directly. However God speaks to you, you can know that God wants to have communion with you and He gave up His life in order to do so.

- *What are some ways that has God proven to you that He wants to have fellowship with you specifically?*
- *Set a timer for two minutes. Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to you and sit in silence focusing on God living within you.*

THURSDAY // THE SOURCE OF LIGHT AND LIFE

Read James 1:17-18. The only way to have fellowship with God is through the blood that Jesus shed on the cross on our behalf. We will never know just how much we needed Jesus until we meet him face to face. In order to walk in the light, we must live with our faith in Jesus as Lord. Yet, so often we place our identity in something other than Jesus. The source of life is Jesus and His blood that He shed on behalf of all of us. We need to center our lives around the source of life. So many other places and distractions try to take us away from the source of life.

"Sin is building your identity on anything but God." - Søren Kierkegaard

- *What are some things that pull you away from the source of life? What can you do to re-align with that source?*
- *Set a timer for two minutes. Ask God to speak to you about your identity. Either repent of a false identity or find comfort in the identity of Christ.*

FRIDAY // THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

Read 1 John 1:5-10. John says that God is light and God is pure, moral good. God is light and life Himself. In God, there is no darkness—no shady, shifting behavior. We have the choice of walking in the light of God, or in the darkness. Walking in darkness isn't primarily acting sinful. Walking in darkness is when we reject Jesus as Lord. In order to walk in the light, we must confess Jesus as Lord. The key to walking in the light is the blood of Jesus. Walking with the knowledge that the blood of Jesus covers our sin is what keeps us from sin. We will never earn our way out of sin, but only the blood of Jesus can cover the sin that we commit.

"And this is one of the most crucial definitions for the whole of Christianity; that the opposite of sin is not virtue but faith." - Søren Kierkegaard

- *How does the love of Jesus spur your obedience to follow Him?*
- *Set a timer for two minutes. Reflect on the love of Jesus when He died on your behalf.*