

Thursday

Read: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

Knowing God's grace, promise, and instruction should change our behavior. While this doesn't necessarily happen overnight, what is one area of sin in your life that you need to focus on correcting? Reconsider how you are handling this struggle. Do you need accountability? Seek someone's help TODAY!

Friday

Read: Titus 2:11-14

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

How is the knowledge of God's grace and your eternal hope in Christ changing your life? How do you view the uncertainty and trials of life around you? In view of the cross, are you taking steps to change your behaviors?

Saturday

Read: Philippians 3:12-21

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

Do you consider yourself a "citizen of heaven"? How should such a view change your life here and now? Do words like "pressing on" and "straining toward" describe your efforts in your walk with Christ? Why or why not? Pray right now that God would renew your passion for knowing and serving Him.

Preparing for this **Sunday** Read: Romans 6:1-14

REDEEMED

October 5, 2008

Your New Beginning

Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring-- not only to those who are of the law but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. Romans 4:16

PROMISE: a legally binding declaration that gives reason to expect something

We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. Romans 3:22 (NLT)

What's Our Natural Common Ground? SIN & JUDGEMENT

What's Our Common Ground in Jesus? JUSTIFIED

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:1-2

By "this grace is which we now STAND,"

- We have PEACE with God. (Our PAST)
- We have a PLACE with God. (Our PRESENT)
- We SHARE in His glory. (Our FUTURE)

³Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. **Romans 5:3-5**

Standing in grace transforms our VIEW of life around us.

» **Refocus on God’s Eternal Promises:** When you struggle with life’s troubles, take a moment to reflect on your eternal promise in Christ.

⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him! ¹⁰For if, when we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. **Romans 5:6-11**

» **Step into God’s Everyday Promises:** You believe in God’s eternal promise. What can you trust Him with in your life today?

My faith: _____ **leads to this action:** _____

» But first, **Know God’s Promises:** God speaks to you in His Word. Interact with His Word – you will discover and experience Him!

²⁰Yet he [Abraham] did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. ²²This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness." ²³The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, ²⁴but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness-- for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. **Romans 4:20-24**

FAITH: being sure that God will do what He promises... and ACTING on it!

BIG Sunday, November 23rd

“You want to see Me ... Step out and trust Me!”

My faith: _____ **leads to this action:** _____

My faith: _____ **leads to this action:** _____

My faith: _____ **leads to this action:** _____



Monday

Read: *Psalm 19:1-14*

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

Referring to *Psalm 19:7-11*, make a list of the Bible’s characteristics and what it will do for you. What thought from this Scripture could most practically impact your life? Will you search God’s Word trusting He will guide you through life?

Tuesday

Read: *2 Timothy 3:14-17*

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

Why do you read and study God’s Word? What is your motivation? What do you need the most of right now – teaching, rebuking, correcting, training? Today, decide one topic you want to learn more about. Determine one area you need corrective help in, and something you would like training in. How will you seek help?

Wednesday

Read: *Romans 12:1-2*

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

Do you desire to know God’s will for your life? How are you seeking to know His will?

What is God's will for humanity? What is God's will for His church? What is God's will for you?