

In an effort to help us learn to read the Bible as individuals, families, and a Church, I invite you to read each of the following this week, perhaps first thing in the morning individually and then collectively at dinner. The verses listed in the middle column are designed for youth to adult disciples, but some of these might be difficult for children to understand, so we include an alternate reading for families with children.

Basic Tips: 1.) Use a translation you can understand. If new to the Bible, try the NIV or The Message, which are both available online. 2.) Use a kids Bible with kids. 3.) Keep a pencil and notebook around to write down questions, observations, and conclusions. 4.) Have fun. Use your imagination and your brain.

Week 3

I AM CALLED TO LOVE.

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and, Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 10:27)

Day 1	Luke 10:25-37	
Day 2	1 John 3:11-23	1 Cor 13:1-13
Day 3	Luke 6:27-36	
Day 4	John 11:1-44	
Day 5	1 John 4:7-12	Luke 15:11-32

Questions to Guide You:

1. What does this story teach us about Jesus? the Father? the Spirit?
2. What does this story teach us about followers of Jesus? People who reject Jesus?
3. Is there a command to obey or an example to follow? Is there a bad example to avoid?
4. What lies, truths, or circumstances cause people to live these ways?
5. What would my life, my relationships, my work, my school look like if I believed and obeyed this Jesus teaching?
6. What practical thing can I do different this week to better imitate and obey Jesus with regards to my marriage, my family, my friends, my work, and my neighbors?

Summary Declaration:

We follow because we love. We love, because God first loved us.ⁱ We do not follow Jesus from compulsion or even selfish, heaven-seeking motives, but because we love the way he loves us.ⁱⁱ Jesus demonstrates that love is a verb more than an emotion or thing.ⁱⁱⁱ Love is a choice to serve and forgive the other with actions and truth.^{iv} Therefore, I will love the Lord by serving his people, studying his Word, following his way, keeping his commands, prioritizing his priorities.^v I will love my neighbors by being present, pointing them to Jesus, and meeting their physical needs.^{vi} I will love my enemies with prayer, forgiveness, and gifts, because Christ loved me when I was his enemy.^{vii}

ⁱ 1 John 4:19; John 6:43,65; John 17:20-26

ⁱⁱ Rev 1:5-8

ⁱⁱⁱ Rom 5:8; John 3:16; John 11:1-44

^{iv} 1 John 3:16-18

^v Matt 23:40; 1 John 4:7-12; 5:1-5

^{vi} Acts 3:1-10; Luke 10:25-37;

^{vii} Luke 6:27-36; Rom 12:14,17; 1 Peter 2:21-25