

CONFIRMATION READING PLAN

SEPTEMBER

Week 1 Readings: Genesis 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8

Discussion Questions:

1. When you read the story of creation, what is your first impression?
2. What does it mean to you to be created in God's image?
3. Adam and Eve tried to cover up their shame with fig leaves. How do you usually react when you sin?
4. How would you describe your relationship with God right now?
5. If you were Noah, how do you think you would have responded if God told you to build an ark?
6. What do you think God is asking you to do right now?

Week 2 Readings: Genesis 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think Abram was able to pick up and take off into the unknown?
2. What do you think God may be calling you to do? How do you feel about it?
3. In what ways has God been working in your life lately?
4. What does faith mean to you?
5. How does our society compare with Sodom and Gomorrah?
6. What would you be willing to do in order to see people come to Jesus in your town?

Week 3 Readings: Exodus 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think Moses killed the Egyptian slave driver?
2. Have you ever felt love for someone that other people rejected and ignored? What did you do about it?
3. What has to happen in order for God to get your attention?
4. How do you feel about God using a murderer to fulfill his plans?
5. What is holding you back from serving God more?
6. When everything seems to be going wrong, what do you do?

Week 4 Readings: Exodus 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Discussion Questions:

1. Has there ever been a time in your life where you felt like God was asking you something you couldn't do?
2. Why do you think Pharaoh was so stubborn?
3. What do you think it means to "harden your heart"?
4. Does God still send plagues on people?
5. In what ways could God be "warning" people in today's world?
6. Why do you think the Israelites had to sprinkle blood over their doorposts on Passover night?

OCTOBER

Week 5 Readings: Joshua 1, 2, 3, 4 23, 24

Discussion Questions:

1. Summarize Joshua chapter 1 in 3 sentences or less.
2. Why do you think Rahab would risk own safety to help out the spies?
3. Why do you think Joshua set up a monument with 12 stones?
4. How are you going to pass on your faith to future generations?
5. What other gods have you been tempted to serve?
6. When (if you have) did you make the choice to serve God?

Week 6 Readings: Judges 13, 14, 15, 16, 1 Samuel 3

Discussion Questions:

1. How can you separate yourself from the world and set yourself apart for God?
2. Where in your life would you like to have more self-control?
3. What areas do you and your parents NOT see eye to eye?
4. If the story of Samson was made into a movie, what title would you give the movie?
5. How do you hear the voice of the Lord and how do you know it's the Lord speaking?
6. What would you give yourself if you had to grade your communication with God?

Week 7 Readings: 1 Samuel 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 26

Discussion Questions:

1. How is God working in your life right now?
2. How would your life be different if your top priority in life was pleasing God?
3. On what basis do you judge people: possessions, appearance, talents, intelligence, faith, other _____?
4. God looks at the heart instead of outward appearance, what does your heart look like?
5. How would you describe Saul's relationship with God?
6. What made David think he could defeat Goliath?
7. What giants are you facing in your life right now?

Week 8 Readings: Psalm 1, 23, 51, 119, 139,

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you "delight in the law of the Lord"?
2. Who or what enemies do you have in your life?
3. What do you think verses 51:16-17 mean?
4. What did you hear from God when you read Psalm 119?
5. How do you feel about God knowing everything about you?

NOVEMBER

Week 9 Readings: Proverbs 1, 4, 5, 10, 31

Discussion Questions:

1. How well do you pay attention to your parent's instruction?
2. Who do you consider to be a wise person? Do you listen too that person?
3. Summarize Proverbs 5 in 3 sentences.
4. What do you think Solomon means when he says in 10:12 that "love covers over all wrongs"?
5. Do you think a woman can actually be like the woman describes in Proverbs 31? Why or why not?

Week 10 Readings: Esther 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Discussion Questions:

1. What is your opinion of beauty contests?
2. If you were chosen as king or queen, what would be the greatest strength or asset you would bring to your country? Are you using that strength or asset right now?
3. Have you ever fasted? Why or why not?
4. If you could go before the President of the United States and he would grant you anything you asked, what would you ask for?
5. What is the moral of the story of Esther?

Week 11 Readings: Job 1, 2, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you usually respond in a crisis situation?
2. How do you feel about the Lord giving Satan permission to test Job?
3. What trouble or suffering are you going through right now?
4. When you don't understand life, what kind of questions do you ask God?
5. Can suffering ever be considered a good thing? If so, when?
6. What thoughts or questions do you have about God and Satan after reading these chapters?

Week 12 Readings: Isaiah 6, 53, 55, Jeremiah 1, 31

Discussion Questions:

1. Are you willing to serve God anywhere at anytime?
2. Who specifically is God sending you to?
3. Have you ever experienced rejection from other people because of your faith?
4. What do you think it means to "seek the Lord"?
5. Do you trust that God has a plan for your life? What do you think that plan is?

DECEMBER

Week 13 Readings: Ezekiel 36, 37, Daniel 1, 3, 6

Discussion Questions:

1. How would you describe your heart right now?
2. After reading Daniel 1, what impresses you most about Daniel?
3. Which area of your life do you feel the most pressure to compromise?
4. Why do people get jealous? Is jealousy ever a good thing?
5. What do you admire most about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego?

Week 14 Readings: Hosea 6, Joel 2, Amos 5, Jonah 1-3

Discussion Questions:

1. How does someone “return to the Lord”?
2. What do you think of when the end times or the end of the earth is mentioned?
3. What do you think makes God grieve?
4. In your spiritual life, which direction are you running?
5. What do you think keeps you from doing something that you believe God wants you to do?
6. What is the message of the story of Jonah?

Week 15 Readings: Matthew 1, 2, 3, Luke 1, 2

Discussion Questions:

1. What thoughts would be going through your head if your fiancée told you she was pregnant from the Holy Spirit?
2. Who are the people that have “prepared the way” for you to meet Jesus?
3. What do you think it means to “produce fruit in keeping with repentance” (Matthew 3:8)?
4. What impresses you most about Joseph and Mary in these chapters?
5. How would you describe your relationship with Jesus right now?

Week 16 Readings: Matthew 4, 5, 6, 7, Luke 4, 6

1. What are the biggest temptations you face in your life right now?
2. When are you most vulnerable to temptation?
3. If you look at your life right now, are you building it on the rock or on the sand? Explain.
4. What “storms” of life are you facing?
5. How do you show love to your enemies?

JANUARY

Week 17 Readings: John 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

1. Why do you think people were calling Jesus the “Lamb of God”?
2. How do you think Mary knew that Jesus could help the people at the wedding?
3. What area(s) of your life do you need to let more of Jesus’ light into?
4. What do you think John the Baptist meant when he said, “He must become greater; I must become less (3:30)?
5. Who do you know that is an “outcast” that you can share Jesus with?
6. Why do you think some people wanted to kill Jesus when he was helping so many other people?

Week 18 Readings: Matthew 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you need Jesus to heal in your life?
2. If you are a follower of Christ, what has it cost you?
3. Why do you think Jesus chose Matthew to be his disciple?
4. What do you think 10:37-39 mean?
5. What do you need rest from?
6. According to 12:46-50, how do you think Jesus got along with his family?

Week 19 Readings: Matthew 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

Discussion Questions:

1. What or who helps you grow the most spiritually? Why?
2. What are the “thorns and rocks” in your life that choke out spiritual growth?
3. How can you improve the soil of your heart?
4. Why do you think Peter was willing to jump out of the boat and go to Jesus?
5. What made Peter sink? What makes you “sink” in your spiritual life?
6. What would it mean for you to “deny” yourself?

Week 20 Readings: Matthew 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

Discussion Questions:

1. What needs to change in your attitude toward those who “wander off”?
2. How has God’s forgiveness affected your life and your willingness to forgive others?
3. Is there anyone you need to forgive?
4. What do you think Jesus means in 19:14 when he says, “for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”?
5. Using Jesus as your example, what are 2 ways you can serve others?
6. Do you care more about God’s opinion or people’s opinion? How does that show?

FEBRUARY

Week 21 Readings: Matthew 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28

Discussion Questions:

1. How can you help other people grow spiritually?
2. If you could ask Jesus one question about the end of the age, what would that be?
3. How do you feel about Jesus saying that the door to the kingdom will be closed for some?
4. What kind of people do you have the most compassion for? What kind of people do you have the least compassion for?
5. Why do you think all the disciples deserted Jesus?
6. How do you feel when you are betrayed?
7. What difference does the Resurrection of Christ make in your everyday life?
8. How are you going to “make disciples of all nations”?

Week 22 Readings: John 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think Jesus did not immediately go to help Lazarus?
2. What concerns you the most about dying?
3. What do you tend to hold on to rather than follow Jesus?
4. Why did Jesus wash the disciples feet?
5. How can we “wash one another’s feet” in today’s world?
6. If you knew ahead of time that someone was going to stab you in the back, how would you treat that person?
7. Are you loving others like Christ loved others? Why or why not?

Week 23 Readings: John 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21

1. What is the difference between the love and peace of Jesus and the love and peace of the world?
2. Thinking back over the last 5 days, who have you glorified by the way you lived?
3. If someone asked you the question, “What is truth?” how would you respond to them?
4. What impacts you the most about Christ’s crucifixion?
5. What doubts do you have regarding your faith?
6. What would you say if Jesus asked you, “Do you truly love me?”

Week 24 Readings: Acts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Discussion Questions:

1. If you were one of the disciples, how would you feel about Jesus leaving?
2. What holds you back from telling others about Jesus?
3. What do you think changed, that allowed the disciples to go out and preach the Word?
4. What does the Holy Spirit do in your life?
5. Look at 2:42-47. What would it look like if we lived like this today?
6. What kind of persecution have you faced because of your faith?

MARCH

Week 25 Readings: Acts 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Discussion Questions:

1. How would you describe your spiritual life right now?
2. Why do you think they wanted so badly to kill Stephen?
3. Have you ever heard God speak to you? What was it like?
4. How has Jesus Christ changed your life?
5. Do you think the same type of miracles that were performed in Acts are performed today? Why or why not?
6. What kind of person would you have the most trouble going to if God asked you to go to their house?

Week 26 Readings: Acts 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

Discussion Questions:

1. What in your life do you find most “imprisoning” right now?
2. Why do you think the people were surprised that God answered their prayer of Peter being released?
3. If you were arrested for being a Christian, what proof would they have that you really are a Christian?
4. Is it ever right for Christians to disagree? When?
5. If you could go on a mission trip, where would you like to go? Why?
6. How would you answer someone who asked, “What do I have to do to be saved?”
7. What spiritual concerns do you have about your community?

Week 27 Readings: Galatians 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you ever strayed from your faith in Christ? What happened?
2. What do you think Paul means when he says that “he has been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me”?
3. Do you think the church is united? Why or why not?
4. What bad habits do you need Christ to deliver you from?
5. What motivates you to be good?
6. What does it mean to you to “live by the Spirit”?

Week 28 Readings: Ephesians 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you become a saint? Do you know any saints? Are you a saint?
2. If the Apostle Paul wrote a letter to Cornerstone Church, what do you think he would say?
3. When do you typically lose your patience?
4. Looking back at the words you spoke this week, are they more helpful to people or hurtful to people?
5. What do you think Paul means when he says, “make the most of every opportunity”?
6. What do you think of when you hear “spiritual warfare”?

APRIL

Week 29 Readings: Philippians 1, 2, 3, 4

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you thank God for?
2. Where has God been able to use a bad situation for good in your life?
3. How does the world define success? How does God define success?
4. How do you balance meeting the needs of others with meeting your own needs?
5. How can you get to know Christ better and have a deeper relationship with him?
6. How would you describe your spiritual race?

Week 30 Readings: 1 Thessalonians 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Discussion Questions:

1. Who has influenced you to live a godly life?
2. How are you going to influence others to live a godly life?
3. How does a person who is pleasing God live?
4. What do you think it means to live a holy life?
5. How does a person “pray continually”?

Week 31 Readings: 1 Timothy 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you define the word “modesty”?
2. How can you set an example for other believers?
3. What do you think it means to “train yourself to be godly”?
4. What would you say is the difference between the ‘love of money’ and ‘money’?
5. How does a person *pursue* righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, and gentleness?

Week 32 Readings: Hebrews 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you do when you feel guilty?
2. What would church look like if we still had to make animal sacrifices today?
3. How can we “spur one another on towards love and good deeds”?
4. What is hindering and entangling you right now?
5. How does a person “fix their eyes on Jesus”?
6. Are you content with what you have or do you want more? Why or why not?

MAY

Week 33 Readings: James 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Discussion Questions:

1. Why would James tell us to consider it a joy to go through hard times in life?
2. What do you think of when James says, "Don't just listen to the Word, do what it says (1:22)?"
3. Why do you think it is so hard to control your tongue?
4. How do you submit to God? How do you resist the devil?
5. Have you ever "wandered from the faith"? How did you get back?

Week 34 Readings: 1 Peter 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Discussion Questions:

1. How can a person be holy in today's society?
2. When there is a crisis in your life, do you tend to lean on God or blame God? Why?
3. Where do you draw the line when it comes to submitting to authority?
4. What should people whose rights are being violated by corrupt authorities do?
5. What comes to your mind when you hear that the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour?

Week 35 Readings: 1 John 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Discussion Questions:

1. Do you feel confession is a good thing or a bad thing?
2. What grade would you give yourself on obeying God's commands? Why?
3. In what areas of your life does love for the world compete with love for God?
4. What do you think John means when he says, "Do not love the world or anything in the world"?
5. In what ways can you "lay down" your life for someone else?
6. How are you doing at loving God?

Week 36 Readings: Revelation 1, 2, 3, 20, 21, 22

Discussion Questions:

1. What is a revelation?
2. What do you think the author means when he says, "You have forsaken your first love"?
3. Are you afraid of persecution? Why or why not?
4. What goes through your mind when you read about these events that will take place in the future?
5. What spiritual battle have you been facing recently?
6. How have you prepared yourself for the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ?