

The Chapel Family Bible Reading Program – July 3-8
Doing Life Together – I Love my Church Pt.4

MONDAY: Matthew 23:13, Luke 11:42

KEY VERSE: Matthew 23:23-24

OBSERVATION: What are some ways that we're prone to focus on secondary matters and neglect the main thing? I've seen some who are at church every time the door is open. They give hours every week to serving, which is a good thing. But their personal walk with God is virtually non-existent. Often there are serious problems in their families, which they dodge by serving at church.

TUESDAY: Isaiah 60:2, 2 Corinthians 11:14, Ephesians 6:12

KEY VERSE: Colossians 1:13

OBSERVATION: Paul is saying that the main thing is not exercising your liberty in Christ or your rights. The main thing is God's kingdom. But what does he mean by "the kingdom of God"? How would you explain the Kingdom of God in your own words.

WEDNESDAY: Matthew 4:8, John 3:3, 5

KEY VERSE: Psalms 2:6-7

OBSERVATION: A kingdom has a king, and Jesus is God's anointed King. We are either in Satan's domain of darkness (Matt. 4:8; 12:26) or in God's kingdom, subject to His King. Paul said, "For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins." Jesus said that we can only enter God's kingdom through the new birth.

THURSDAY: Isaiah 32:17, Galatians 5:22, Colossians 2:16

KEY VERSE: Romans 14:17

OBSERVATION: Scholars divide into two camps over the interpretation of these three qualities, righteousness, peace, and joy. Is Paul describing our standing or position in Christ, or is he describing practical righteousness, relational peace, and the joy we experience with one another as we live in harmony? It seems to me that Paul is not differentiating sharply between these two views and that he is using the expression in a way that suggests both.

FRIDAY: Psalm 34:14, 1 Corinthians 10:23

KEY VERSE: Romans 14:19

OBSERVATION: But our relationship with God necessarily affects our relationship with our fellow members in His kingdom. Because of our new standing as righteous before God, we seek to practice righteousness (Rom. 6:13, 18; 1 John 2:29; 3:7). Because we have peace with God, we are to pursue peace with others (Rom. 14:19; Eph. 2:14-22). Because we know the joy of God's salvation, we love to share our joy with others who enjoy the same blessings.

SATURDAY: Romans 1:7, Philippians 1:20, Titus 3:6

KEY VERSE: Romans 5:1-5

OBSERVATION: Are you practicing righteousness in your relationships? Do you think of others' needs and how you can serve them? Are you at peace with others? If you have offended or wronged someone, have you sought to make it right? Have you asked forgiveness for your wrongs and granted forgiveness to those who have wronged you? Do you enjoy sharing in the things of God with His people?