

**The Chapel Family Bible Reading Program – May 14-19**  
***Doing Life Together – Threads of Thrive – Character***

**MONDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Romans 5:3

**OBSERVATION** Endurance in the Bible means steadfast adherence to a course of action in spite of difficulties and testing. As we go through trials, we develop greater perseverance to deal with increased challenges. Consider James's words on the subject - James 1:2-5

**TUESDAY:**

**KEY VERSE** Romans 5:4

**OBSERVATION:** Character is the image of Christ that's present in us being made clearer. In essence, character means to expose the quality of what's being tested. In the heat of suffering, God gives grace for us to endure. A goldsmith uses heat under a smelting pot to bring the impurities to the top, which are skimmed off, leaving only the pure gold behind. In the same way, God uses our suffering to bring out the impurities in our lives and remove them. Peter alluded to this concept - 1 Peter 1:6-7

**WEDNESDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Romans 5:5

**OBSERVATION:** Character that's sanctified by the gospel becomes progressively more stable and is therefore able to focus more effectively on the things of the Lord. Character unleashes hope in suffering. Hope is the joyful expectation of what the Lord has promised. Paul wrote - Romans 15:13

**THURSDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Psalm 52:9

**OBSERVATION:** Psalm 52 is a song that looks straight into the face of evil, of terrible forces that plot evil. He also recognizes that God has allowed the problem to manifest itself. It is here, in the face of this struggle that David restates his faith in the sovereignty and wisdom of God. You may not understand God's plan, but can you faithfully say, I trust God's sovereignty? Can you testify with David, saying, "I know God is in charge, and will testify that God is good"?

**FRIDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** John 16:33

**OBSERVATION:** The Holy Spirit is a source of strength, who knows the heart and mind of the father. List two specific questions for which you would like answers. Since the Holy Spirit only speaks what he hears, would you still trust God if you do not hear the answers you want to hear?

**SATURDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

**OBSERVATION:** We Pray for God's blessing for those who have endured a diagnosis, which has produced fear in them. How can you use this prayer to encourage others who are suffering with a chronic, or potentially fatal illness? What can you do to become God's hands and feet, to carry this prayer of encouragement to an ill friend or loved one who needs to find hope in suffering?