

The Chapel Family Bible Reading Program – October 15 - 20
Doing Life Together – SHIFT from Preachy to Present

MONDAY:

KEY VERSE: Isaiah 26:3

OBSERVATION: Be Focused – This is paramount for presence and there are several key passages in the Bible that exhort us of the necessity of focusing our thoughts and minds. We are told to “fix our thoughts on Jesus” and to “set our minds on things above.” We are also exhorted to “be steadfast of mind.”

TUESDAY:

KEY VERSE: Matthew 24:42

OBSERVATION: Not enough can be said about how important it is to be alert and discerning. Again and again the Bible tells us be fully awake and vigilant, seeking to see the things God is seeing and wants to reveal to us. Jesus told us to “Keep watch” and Paul said “Be watchful!”

WEDNESDAY:

KEY VERSE: 1 Thessalonians 5:18

OBSERVATION: Be Thankful – Being content and thankfulness go hand in hand. And so it is possible to “be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.”

THURSDAY:

KEY VERSE: Colossians 4:27

OBSERVATION: When the moment we are in is not a pleasant one or is trying our patience we always have the option of turning to God in prayer. Prayer enables us to be present when other things around war against that. Prayer also helps us be more discerning to find God in the moment. We should therefore be “instant in prayer” and “Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion.”

FRIDAY:

KEY VERSE: 1 Corinthians 16:14

OBSERVATION: Being present in the moment is greatly helped when we focus on and think about others before ourselves. It frees us from self-consciousness and self-pity. “Do everything with love” the Bible tells us. Trying circumstances are always transformed with love. “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.”

SATURDAY:

KEY VERSE: 1 Corinthians 16:13

OBSERVATION: Be Strong – It takes perseverance and strength to endure difficult moments we sometimes find ourselves experiencing. God is always there to help you be present and not retreat by longing for the past or wishing for a preferred future. Many times in the Bible we hear these words “Be strong and courageous!”