

**The Chapel Family Bible Reading Program – December 10<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>**  
***Doing Life Together – Christmas According to my Neighbor***

**MONDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Isaiah 55:8

**OBSERVATION:** There is a fictional story, called the Tale of Three Tree's (Look it up and read it) that reveals a great truth. The truth of God's faithfulness even when we may not understand, even when we may think He's forgotten - can also be seen in the lives of four very real people from the Bible. In the Christmas story, we can see that the LORD, Jehovah God, always, always knows best...He is faithful!

**TUESDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Luke 2:1-7

**OBSERVATION:** The Christmas story is filled with dreams used by God to do the unexpected, the unexplainable, the unlimited! The first two are probably most well known besides Jesus found in our reading today. Pause and think about this familiar of the story of Mary & Joseph. Ask and answer the following questions; For Mary - What do you think some of Mary's dreams were? Was God's plan for her bigger? Better? Was God faithful? How about Joseph?

**WEDNESDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Luke 2:25-35

**OBSERVATION:** When many in Israel had believed God had forgotten them and had themselves quit watching for the Messiah, Simeon "was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel". God had spoken to him through His Holy Spirit, and Simeon believed God. We don't really know how old Simeon was at this time or how long he had waited, but many believe he was indeed aged in years for when He saw Jesus and the promise of God, he said in vs 29, "Now, Lord, Thou dost let thy bondservant depart in peace, according to Thy word;"

**THURSDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Luke 2:36-38

**OBSERVATION:** And then there is Anna, a widow of many years. She served in the temple both night and day. She must have been watching and waiting too, trusting in God's faithfulness - vs.38 "And at that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continues to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem."

**FRIDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:**

**OBSERVATION:** Who can know what an angel might think? From a human perspective, singing and announcing the birth of Jesus to a ragtag band of shepherds was beneath their dignity. However, God's angels have a very different understanding of joy that goes beyond human arrogance. With delighted relief, they announced the Joyous news that was threatening to burst heaven asunder. By the witness of those humble shepherds, the angels effectively communicated their news to billions of human hearts.

**SATURDAY:**

**KEY VERSE:** Romans 8:28

**OBSERVATION:** Life is like a tapestry. When you look from underneath, it looks like a mass of mess - random threads that seem to be tangled with no pattern! Yet when it is seen from above, the beauty of the planned artwork is evident. We only see life from here below, and yes, many times it appears as a mass of mess, forgotten by the artist and left to random chance! That is not the truth though! God has a plan for each of us, and although we can't see the pattern of the threads, He can and He is in control of them. We can trust like Mary, Joseph, Simeon and Anna; He is faithful!