

Monday (Jan.7)	<p><b>Scripture: Mark 1:35-39</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where did <i>Jesus go</i> and what did <i>He do</i> very early in the morning? Vs. 35 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What do you think <i>Jesus wanted to teach us</i> through what He did?</li> <li>Reflect on how <i>you start off your morning</i> each day.</li> </ul> </li> <li>If <i>you were Jesus</i>, how would <i>you feel</i> when the disciples <i>exclaimed</i>: “<i>Everyone is looking for you!</i>” when you are <i>spending private time with God</i>? Vs. 36-37 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do you think there is a <i>problem with the disciples’ exclamation</i>? Why/why not?</li> </ul> </li> <li>How did <i>Jesus respond</i> to the disciples’ exclamation? Vs. 38-39 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What <i>interesting insights</i> can you find in Jesus’ reply: “<i>Let us go somewhere else</i>” when His disciples exclaimed, “<i>Everyone is looking for you!</i>”?”</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Tuesday (Jan.8)	<p><b>Scripture: Mark 1:40-45</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What was <i>Jesus’ emotion</i> when He saw the leprous man? Vs. 40-32 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What was <i>wrong with Jesus’ action</i> towards the leprous man <i>in that culture</i>, but what does this <i>tell you about Jesus</i>? Vs. 41</li> </ul> </li> <li>Why did <i>Jesus warn the cured man not to spread what happened</i>? Vs. 43-44a <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How did Jesus teach the cured man to <i>thank and give glory to God</i>? Vs. 44b</li> <li>How does Jesus’ teaching in <i>verse 44b remind us to respond God and His help</i>?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Would you say the <i>cured man’s action<sup>1</sup> in verse 45 wrong</i>? Why/why not? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How <i>obedient are you</i> to Jesus’ words/teaching/warning/instruction? How so?</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Wednesday (Jan.9)	<p><b>Scripture: Mark 2:1-12</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What can we <i>learn from the four men and the paralyzed man</i>? Vs. 3-5</li> <li>Why do you think Jesus said to the paralytic “<i>Son, your sins are forgiven</i>” when the paralytic man’s intention was to ask for physical healing?</li> <li>What do you think was <i>Jesus’ main point</i> to this? “<i>Which is easier<sup>2</sup>: ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk?’</i>” Vs. 6-12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What <i>two things</i> did the <i>paralytic received from Jesus</i> by the end?</li> <li>What had <i>God done in your life</i> that you will <i>always be amazed</i>?</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Thursday (Jan.10)	<p><b>Scripture: Mark 2:13-17</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the <i>commonalities</i> of the calling of Levi (Matthew) verses the calling of Simon/Andrew/James/John? Vs. 13-15 (Ref. Mark 1:16-20) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What do these <i>commonalities teach you about Jesus’ calling</i> for people to serve Him/serve with Him?</li> </ul> </li> <li>What was <i>wrong with Jesus having dinner with those people</i>? Vs. 15-16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Imagine <i>you were one of the disciples at the time</i>, how would you <i>feel having dinner with Jesus and the tax collectors/sinners</i> while the Pharisees and others were watching you? What would you be <i>thinking during the dinner</i>?</li> <li>What does “<i>to eat with a person</i>” <i>means to you</i>? What do you think <i>it means to Jesus</i>?</li> </ul> </li> <li>What <i>reason</i> did Jesus give for <i>His earthly presence</i>? Vs. 17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Since <i>you are Jesus’ follower</i>, what do you think <i>He wants you to do</i> on earth?</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

<sup>1</sup>The cured man was too gracious for Jesus’ healing, so he wanted to tell everyone. However, he was not obedient to Jesus’ warning.

<sup>2</sup>Neither one was easier yet both are impossible to men, but both are equally easy to God (The NIV Study Bible, p. 1495).

Friday (Jan.11)	<p><b>Scripture: Mark 2:18-22</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What do you think John’s disciples/Pharisees’ disciples were <i>fasting for</i>? Vs.18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why would <i>Jesus use a wedding to explain why His disciples do not fast</i>? Vs. 19-20</li> <li>What do you think <i>fasting associates with</i>? Why?</li> </ul> </li> <li>What <i>analogies</i> did Jesus use to <i>illustrate a brand new life</i>? Vs. 21-22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why can’t the <i>old and the new exist simultaneously</i>?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Are you <i>living a brand new self in Christ</i> or is your <i>old self pulling and pouring into your new self</i>? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you are indeed <i>living a new self</i>, what new <i>challenges</i> will you give yourself in the New Year to <i>grow even deeper</i> in your new self with Christ?</li> <li>If <i>you are struggling</i>, what can you do in the New Year to <i>overcome your old self</i>?</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Saturday (Jan.12)	<p><b>Scripture: Mark 2:23-28</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What did <i>Jesus’ disciples do</i> that the <i>Pharisees considered unlawful</i>? Vs. 23-24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the Jewish tradition, what do you think was <i>forbidden on the Sabbath</i>? Why?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Why did <i>Jesus use David’s incident<sup>3</sup></i> to answer the Pharisees? Vs. 25-26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>According to both incidents, what did <i>Jesus value more</i>? Why?</li> </ul> </li> <li>What is the <i>God-given purpose of the Sabbath</i>? Vs. 27-28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate <i>your Sabbath at church every Sunday</i>. Do you think <i>God is pleased with how you spend your weekly Sabbath<sup>4</sup> with Him</i>? How would you <i>prepare yourself for tomorrow Sabbath</i>?</li> <li>If you do not have a weekly Sabbath, please <i>arrange your time to have one</i> because it is extremely that believers spend a weekly Sabbath<sup>5</sup> with the Creator.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Sunday (Jan.13)	<p><b>Scripture: Psalm 37:1-9</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why did David tell us <i>not to fret</i>? Vs. 1-2, 7b-9a <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the <i>consequences of evil men/the foolish</i> those who do not know the LORD?</li> </ul> </li> <li>How do we <i>stay close to the LORD</i> and what are <i>His promises</i>? Vs.3a-7a, 9b <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Say these breath prayers for the rest of this month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“<i>I trust in the LORD</i>”; “<i>I delight myself in the LORD</i>”; “<i>I commit my way to the LORD</i>”; “<i>I am still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him</i>”; “<i>I hope in the LORD</i>”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li><i>Meditate</i> on the lyrics of this song and <i>sing it 2 times</i>: <i>You are My Hiding Place<sup>6</sup></i>  <i>You are my hiding place,</i>  <i>You always fill my heart with songs of deliverance.</i>  <i>Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You.</i>  <i>I will trust in You.</i>  <i>Let the weak say I am strong in the strength of my Lord.</i> </li> </ol>

<sup>3</sup>Ref. 1Samuel 21:1-6

<sup>4</sup>It is extremely important that believers in Christ keep a weekly Sabbath, a meaningful and pleasing Sabbath to the LORD. A Sabbath is NOT just a concept, but it is a time of rest/renewal and away of being “in time/tune” with God. Remember these components when keeping your Sabbath: Sabbath As Rest, As Refreshment, As Receptivity, As Release, and As Refocusing (Dr. D. Sherbino, Spiritual Formation, Fall 2007).

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<sup>6</sup><http://my.homewithgod.com/heavenlymidis2/hiding.html>.