

Bible Reading Together during this Covid-19 Shutdown

During this Coronavirus shutdown, and with prolonged absence from the physical church, this program is meant to help us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus so that God's Words remain close to our hearts, and in the discussions around the dinner table and living room sofas.

Let's read the Bible together - a chapter from Old Testament and a chapter from the New Testament, and make it a time to discuss with your family and friends as a way to form our faith. And as always, you can contact Pastor Jin (jobae456@gmail.com) for questions and thoughts.

August 30-September 5: Read **Genesis 2-3 & Gospel of Luke 2**

Genesis 2-3

Genesis 2 recounts another way the creation story is told. Different from Genesis 1, we see God interacting with his creation in loving and caring way. There is intimacy – the careful molding of clay, the breathing into the nostrils, the creating a partner so that he is not alone.

Further Study & Discussion

- How is God's interaction with his creation different from Genesis 1? How are they a reflection of the same God? In your own life, are you more familiar with God of Genesis 1 or Genesis 2? Give some examples.
- How are humans unique? Reading both Genesis 1 and 2, how are we different from animals, and how are we similar?

Genesis 3 records humanity's first sin. It didn't take long, did it? Disobeying God's one command to stay away from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, Eve and Adam eat of the forbidden fruit. And as a result, they are evicted out of the Garden.

Further Study & Discussion

- Read the story of the first sin and share your observations. Many sermons have been given about this story, so recount them and find new truths.
- The blame game is not new. See Adam thank God in 2:23 and then blame God in 3:12. Talk about a time when you blamed someone else for something you did wrong.
- Where is the grace in evicting Adam and Eve from the Garden? How can we call God a loving and forgiving God?

Gospel of Luke 2

This is the birth story of Jesus that is told every year in December. Read again the very difficult journey into Bethlehem by Mary who was about to give birth. And walk with Mary and Joseph as they present baby Jesus at the Temple. And the teenage Jesus!

Further Study & Discussion

- In Matthew, Jesus is given great gifts through the Magi. In Luke, what gifts are given to Jesus? What is the meaning of this? And why is the Son of God born in a barn – where is God in this?
- Put yourself in Mary's position. What's going through her mind all through chapter 2?
- Find three things you are thankful to God in this reading.