

supernaturally do what He has called you to do. Understanding this reality will richly enable you to accomplish the work of God.

Devotional: You are no longer of this world, your mind and attitude have been transformed. You have been brought into God's service through the blood of Christ. Reflect on I Corinthians 6:20 and Romans 12:1-2. This is the new life you have been given through Christ.

Pray That you would offer your body as a living sacrifice to God and others.

That you would have a fuller understanding of the commandments to "...love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind..." and to "...love your neighbor as yourself."

Saturday, 4/28

Many are lost souls. Some deny the existence of God, others serve a false god, others worship idols. As those who understand the truth it is our duty to instruct those who misunderstand the true nature of God.

Devotional: Read Acts 17:16-34. Paul, the great evangelist, was not shy in setting the record straight. He eagerly entered into discourse with those at Mars Hill to instruct them in a true understanding of God. Consider how the awareness of his surroundings provided Paul with witnessing opportunities, and what Paul's eagerness teaches about how we should witness.

Pray For opportunities to witness, both through the way we live, and through

the way we respond to situations where the good news of Jesus Christ can be shared.

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

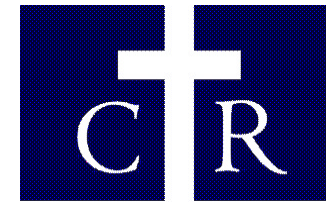
Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!
Thou art the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after Thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!
Search me and try me, Master, today!
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,
As in Thy presence humbly I bow.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!
Power, all power, surely is Thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute sway!
Fill with Thy Spirit 'till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me.

Taking Gathered Worship Home



CHRIST *the*
REDEEMER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Family and Individual Devotions Meditations in Acts

Week of April 22, 2007

The Essence of the Church

Daily Devotionals

The word of God teaches us His message will not be received by all. What is good in the sight of God will often be looked upon as evil, what is evil in the sight of God will often be looked upon as good. Christians who speak of the truth of Gods word will not be received favorably by all. Times of open hostility will be encountered by those who understand and profess the truth. We are not left on our own to handle these realities. The bible teaches a great deal about the proper response to these rejections.

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to meet with Jesus. Please pray that we as a community of faith will learn His ways and walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Throughout the week we encourage you to use the hymn, "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" found on the back page as your songs, your prayers, and your reminder this week about what the church is all about.

Sunday, 4/22 In Acts 16:25, Paul and Silas responded to their imprisonment through prayer and praise. Prayers drew their attention from the situation at hand, properly placing their focus back on God. Through the singing of hymns Paul and Silas gave thanks and adoration to the God they were serving.

Devotional: Who is your light when times get tough? Are you able to focus on God despite your circumstance? Study closely Psalm 27:1-8. Do you boldly proclaim God as your light and your salvation? Are prayer and praise your first response to each situation in your life?

Pray That you would rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances.

Monday, 4/23 Through Christ you have salvation, and the word of God lights the way through your life. This light provides insight into how you are to walk in the ways of God. Responding with prayer and praise in every situation allows the light of Christ to shine in your life.

Devotional: Walking in the light of God starts with our initial reaction to the things around us. For Gods insight into our attitude look at Philippians 2:14-16. Every word we speak, every action we take should "hold out the word of life" to those around us.

Pray That in every area of your life you would be able to respond "without complaining or arguing." Pray for the ability to properly respond to all circumstances in a godly manner.

Tuesday, 4/24

Many times during this study we have focused on Acts 1:8. Being a witness for God starts with acting in a Godly manner. As we develop relationships with others how we live our life is what they most clearly see. How we think is what drives how we act.

Devotional: Does your thought life enable you to live a life that shines before others? Are you truly different in the way you handle life, or are you just one of the crowd? Our outward reactions are the result of our inward thoughts. Meditate on Philippians 1:8.

Pray For a thought life that meditates on the purity and truth of the word of God. That the purity and truth of the word of God will drive your outward actions providing you with a foundation for witnessing to others.

Wednesday, 4/25

In Acts 16:26-28 Paul and Silas were provided with the opportunity to escape their imprisonment. They remained where they were, reacting in a manner different than what might be expected. This different response allowed them the opportunity of witness to the jailer leading to his salvation.

Devotional: I Corinthians 10:32-33 expand on the command to "do all to the glory of God" found in I Corinthians 10:31. These verses teach us not to seek our own advantage but to please everyone in all that we do. The purpose? "That they may be saved".

Pray That your every action would be a witness to others so that they may be saved.

Thursday, 4/26

In reality none of our lives live up to this standard. Our sinful nature often comes between what we do and what we know we ought to do. Paul emphatically expressed this dilemma in his life. Our compass when we lose our way is meditating on the word of God, planting it in our heart and living in its promises.

Devotional: Discouragement will quickly engulf our lives if we reflect on our human nature. The Bible teaches that if you are in Christ you are members of his holy kingdom. His kingdom is to be the focus of our thoughts, words and deeds. Study Hebrews 12:1-2. Look unto Jesus as you run the race before you.

Pray That you will properly focus on Jesus Christ. Your assurance of your calling into his kingdom will allow you to run the race that He has given you.

Friday, 4/27

It's all about sacrifice. Denying your own self, taking up His cross daily, and following Him. Giving up what you might naturally prefer to do, and