

W @ K L J P r a J @ r J O U r n a l

DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

“The Best Day of the Week”

Selected Scripture

March 8 – March 14, 2009

Praise & Prayer	ADORATION Hallowed be Your name. (6:9)	AUTHORITY Your Kingdom come... (6:10)	APPEAL Give us this day... (6:11)	AQUITTAL Forgive us our debts... (6:12)	ASSISTANCE Deliver us from evil. (6:13a)	ADMIRATION For Yours is the Kingdom... (6:13)	Lord's Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

THE LORD'S DAY –As we approach the end of our small mini-series taken from Joshua Harris’ book entitled “*Stop Dating The Church –Fall In Love With The Family Of God*”, we will take the next two Lord’s Day mornings to look at that very topic: “The Lord’s Day”. Many weeks could be spent looking at this subject but we will just touch on some main points regarding “*The Best Day of the Week*” in our study. We will address some practical issues that relate to how we should prepare for The Lord’s Day as well as how we should conduct ourselves in it and after it. Read **Acts 20:7**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: God, teach me this week from Your Word.

MONDAY – “On Sundays, Christians go to church. Everybody knows that. Church attendance may be slipping around the world, but for a good number of us it’s still something we do. It’s a habit—like sleeping, breathing...and all the other things we do without thinking. And I suppose that’s the problem. We could do it in our sleep. Some of us do.” (**Josh Harris “Stop Dating The Church, Chapter 6 – Rescuing Sunday- page 101**) All of us have at some point had one of the following problems on Sunday morning: Woke up late, came to church sleepy and lazy, worshipped half hearted with distraction, occasionally listened, left early, remembered very little, and applied nothing. For the Child of God “*The Lord’s Day*” is the best day of the week. Those few hours in a week of **168** have an irreplaceable, strategic, and lasting value. Why would you cheat yourself of such divine instruction and food necessary for living life to the full? Way back in the Old Testament God had set apart a day for spiritual reflection and renewal. Read **Exodus 31:16-17**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: God, help me understand the gift You have given me in “The Lord’s Day”.

TUESDAY – (continued)...This we understand was a law for the Jewish people, but we find then in the New Testament that God also ordained the “*First day of the week*” as a special day for His people. This was set down first and foremost by the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on the first day of the week. This is why we like the early church call Sunday, “**The Lord’s Day**”. The following are a few quotes from **Charles Spurgeon** in relation to The Lord’s Day:

M a t t h @ W 6: 9-13

“The Change which our Lord has made in the Sabbath is indicative of the change which He has made in our life. The Law say’s, ‘Work six days and then observe the seventh as the Sabbath.’ But under the gospel the arrangement is, ‘Rest on the first day before you have done a stroke of work. Just as the week begins, take your rest, and after that, in the strength derived from it, and from the grateful motives which arise out of that one blessed day of rest, give to the Lord the six days of the week.’ There is a change from law to gospel indicated in that very change. So let it be with you.”

“Sunday is our best day for business,” says somebody. Well then, so much more opportunity is there for you to make a greater sacrifice to prove your love for Jesus.”

“I believe that Sunday should be spent in recreation. You are dreadfully shocked, and well you may be. But what do I mean by ‘recreation’? It means creating us new. Oh, that everybody who talks about spending Sunday in recreation would come to be recreated, regenerated, renewed, refreshed, revived, and made to rejoice in God.”

Read these verses speaking of The Lord’s Day or “The first day of the week”: **John 20:19, Acts 20:7, 1 Corinthians 16:2, and Revelation 1:10.**

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Father, help me to not only understand the significance of the first day of the week but also to receive Your blessing by honoring it as special.

WEDNESDAY – Every day belongs to God. But Sunday is the Lord’s Day in a special way. From the very moment of that first “Easter” morning, the first day of the week was unique (**Matthew 28:1, Mark 16:2, Luke 24:1, John 20:1**). We must learn to build our week around Sunday and not the other way around. (*The following are taken from Stop Dating The Church, Chapter 6 –Rescuing Sunday*)

1. Before the Meeting Do we really need to prepare for Sunday? Don’t expect to get out of the Sunday service the best God has for you if you don’t come prepared. No one takes an important exam without studying and no believer should come to the corporate worship service of The Almighty God without spiritual preparation. Practically speaking, don’t go to bed in the middle of the night on Saturday and expect to come to church not rested. Lay things out the night before so you are not rushed in your physical preparation for The Lord’s Day service. Watching TV is NOT the way to prepare yourself for the worship of God and to hear the preaching of His Word.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Father, help me strive to prepare myself to come together with the people of God to worship and hear from You on The Lord’s Day.

THURSDAY – The following quote is from **John Piper** in regards to turning off the TV to prepare your heart to receive God’s Word:

*“It astonishes me how many Christians watch the same banal, empty, silly, trivial, titillating, suggestive, immodest TV shows that most unbelievers watch—and then wonder why their spiritual lives are weak and their worship experience is shallow with no intensity. If you really want to hear the Word of God the way He means to be heard in truth and joy and power, turn off the television on Saturday night and read something true and great and beautiful and pure and honorable and excellent and worthy of praise (see **Philippians 4:8**). Then watch your heart un-shrivel and begin to hunger for the Word of God. God means for His Word to be heard in “truth and joy and power,” but that requires a purposeful pursuit of personal holiness. **James 1:21** says, ‘Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the Word planted in you, which can save you.’”*

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: God, help me turn off the worldly pressures and through Your Spirit prepare my heart to hear with meekness the Word which can save my soul.

FRIDAY – We must prepare our hearts before we come to worship God. (**Psalm 24:3-5**) We understand that it is Christ alone through His work on the cross that makes being clean before God more than a possibility but an attainable reality. Read the Word and Pray before you come to church and get your heart right and clean before God so that you may gain the fullest benefit from Him and His Word.

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Father, keep me mindful of Your holiness and that only through Christ can I stand before You and be accepted.

SATURDAY –Take some time today and practice the things we have looked at this week. Ask God to help You prepare to come together tomorrow in corporate worship. Read **Hebrews 10:19-25**

What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Father, thank You for the privilege to worship You. Help me to truly understand and honor You by obeying and keeping The Lord’s Day holy and by coming together with Your people to hear You speak from Your Word.