

# Taking Gathered Worship Home

The disciples understood that Jesus was the promised Christ, their long-anticipated Savior, but they did not yet have any idea of *how* it was that He would save them. They wanted Him to save them in power, but His path was weakness. They wanted victory, but He was to lead them to the defeat on the cross. It was only through suffering, rejection, and death that He could rise in resurrection triumph.

*Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.*

## Sunday

READ **Mark 8:29-38; Isaiah 53:4-11; Hosea 6:1-3; Romans 12:1-3; 12:14-21; First Peter 2:4-5; Psalm 118:19-23.** DISCUSS Peter got the profession right, but He didn't realize that the Christ must suffer. Why must Jesus suffer? Why must we? How does the resurrection enable us to do so with joy? SERVE someone in need. MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 2:8-13.** PRAY "Jesus, enable us to follow You joyfully."

## Monday

READ **Mark 8:29-38; Isaiah 53:4-11; Psalm 118:19-23.** DISCUSS God promised that His suffering servant would redeem His people. Why do we struggle to accept this? SERVE someone with the love of Christ! MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 2:8-13.** PRAY, "Jesus, You were stricken, smitten, and afflicted in order for us to be accepted, embraced, and loved. Thank You. Teach us to walk in Your ways of self-sacrifice."

## Tuesday

READ **Mark 8:29-38; Hosea 6:1-3; Psalm 118:19-23.** DISCUSS How does God's faithful keeping of the seasons teach us to trust Him with life after death? Is this just wishful thinking? How does the resurrection ground our faith in the truth? SERVE by considering someone else's needs *above your own!* MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 2:8-13.** PRAY, "Lord Jesus, You were buried so that we might be raised. Enable us to trust You in walking through the valley of the shadow of death and to know Your comfort."

### Wednesday

READ **Mark 8:29-38; Romans 12:1-3; Psalm 118:19-23**. DISCUSS How is Christ's call to take up our cross related to the command to "present your bodies as a living sacrifice"? How is this spiritual worship? MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 2:8-13**. PRAY, "Lord, thank You for Your transforming work in taking us from self-indulgence and death to self-sacrifice and life."

### Thursday

READ **Mark 8:29-38; Romans 12:14-21; First Peter 2:4-5; Psalm 118:19-23**. DISCUSS How is dying to ourselves and thereby mortifying the flesh the means to life in the Spirit? Jesus is not making us pay dues, but freeing us from idolatry. SERVE by demonstrating God's tenderness! MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 2:8-13**. PRAY, "Lord, thank You for overcoming evil with good so that we might follow You through death into life everlasting."

### Friday

READ **Mark 8:29-38; Isaiah 53:4-11; Hosea 6:1-3; Romans 12:1-3; 12:14-21; First Peter 2:4-5; Psalm 118:19-23**. DISCUSS How has the Holy Spirit been guiding you *this week through these passages*? MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 2:8-13**. PRAY that we at FCCW would *be content with Christ*.

### Saturday

PREPARE for *gathered worship tomorrow*. READ **Mark 9:1-50**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for Sunday School at **9:00** and the **10:30** worship service. Ask Jesus to *especially knit us together in the unity we have in Him*.

## Meditate on Second Timothy 2:8-13

<sup>8</sup> Remember Jesus Christ, *risen from the dead*, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, <sup>9</sup> for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! <sup>10</sup> Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. <sup>11</sup> The saying is trustworthy, for:

*If we have died with him, we will also live with him;*

<sup>12</sup> *if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us;*

<sup>13</sup> *if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.*