

PRAY EVERY DAY January 3, 2021 Resource

*The Bishop Sharma Lewis Read the Bible in 2021 Challenge (Genesis to Revelation)*

January 4: Genesis 12–15

January 8: Genesis 25–26

January 5: Genesis 16–18

January 9: Genesis 27–29

January 6: Genesis 19–21

January 10: Genesis 30–31

January 7: Genesis 22–24

*Small Group or personal study*

Read Matthew 2:1-12

In Matthew 2:1-12, wise ones sought out Jesus to honor him and opened their treasure chests to bless him. The wise ones not only could say that they found Jesus but they made room for Jesus in their lives and the world. They protected Jesus from murderous Herod and gave gifts that would have been some of their finest.

Below are sections from “Wesley’s Covenant Service.” This service is used around the end or beginning of the year as a way for us to make room for Jesus in our lives and world. It is a giving of our best gifts to God. It is most about a whole giving of ourselves to Jesus in faith and trust. When we make room for Jesus in our lives, thinking, planning, spending, and actions we make a lot of room for Jesus in the world. Spend time this week praying the covenant prayers below.

- Which parts of the prayer are you ready to commit to?
- Which parts of the prayer are you unsure of?

*Invitation to Covenant Prayer*

Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

**Let me be your servant, under your command. I will no longer be my own.**

**I will give up myself to your will in all things.**

Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

**Lord, make me what you will.**

**I put myself fully into your hands: put me to doing, put me to suffering,**

**let me be employed for you or laid aside for you,**

**let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing.**

**I freely and with a willing heart give it all to your pleasure and disposal.**

*Covenant Prayer*

**O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, see me as I fall down before you.**

**Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will,**

**for you have promised mercy to me if I turn to you with my whole heart.**

God requires that you shall put away all your idols.

**I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all,**

**covenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life.**

**Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world.**

**In your power I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you.**

**For my own righteousness is riddled with sin, unable to stand before you.**

Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again if you would let him.

**Before all heaven and earth, I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God.**

**I take you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion,**

**and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant,  
to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.**  
God has given the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way and means of coming to God.  
**Jesus, I do here on bended knees accept Christ as the only new and living Way,  
and sincerely join myself in a covenant with him.**  
**O blessed Jesus, I come to you, hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked,  
unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants.**  
**I do here, with all my power, accept you as my Lord and Head.**  
**I renounce my own worthiness, and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness.**  
**I renounce my own wisdom, and take you for my only guide.**  
**I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.**  
Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.  
**I do here covenant with you, O Christ, to take my lot with you as it may fall.**  
**Though your grace I promise that neither life nor death shall part me from you.**  
God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.  
**I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your burden.**  
**All your laws are holy, just, and good.**  
**I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions,  
promising that I will strive to order my whole life according to your direction,  
and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.**  
The almighty God searches and knows your heart.  
**O God, you know that I make this covenant with you today without guile or reservation.**  
**If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright.**  
**And now, glory be to you, O God the Father,  
whom I from this day forward shall look upon as my God and Father.**  
**Glory be to you, God the Son, who have loved me  
and washed me from my sins in your own blood, and now is my Savior and Redeemer.**  
**Glory be to you, O God the Holy Spirit,  
who by your almighty power have turned my heart from sin to God.**  
**O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
you have now become my Covenant Friend.**  
**And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant servant.**  
**So be it.**  
**And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven.**  
**Amen.**

*Spend time in silence*

*Prayer for others and yourself*

*The Lord's Prayer*

*Share the Love of Jesus because It's All about Relationships*

How will you or how did you share the love of Jesus with neighbor today with no strings attached? Write it down and share it this week in small group for support and prayer.