

PRAY EVERY DAY September 5, 2021 Resource

*Petition to See God's Works from Psalm 90:16 (NRSV)*

Let your work be manifest to your servants,  
and your glorious power to their children.

*A Prayer of Thomas More*

The things, good Lord, that we pray for, give us the grace to labor for.

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

September 6: Ezekiel 23 – 24	September 10: Ezekiel 34 – 36
September 7: Ezekiel 25 – 27	September 11: Ezekiel 37 – 39
September 8: Ezekiel 28 – 30	September 12: Ezekiel 40 – 42
September 9: Ezekiel 31 – 33	

*Small Group or personal study*

Read Mark 7:24-37

- Jesus went outside of his regular ministry area and did not want anyone to know where he was. There are several examples in the Gospels of Jesus withdrawing from the crowds to seek rest and prayer. Jesus lived the example of Sabbath, of resting from regular labor to be refreshed by God. How do you practice times of rest from your regular work?
  - How often are you able to take a Sabbath day each week for rest, God, and enjoying the blessings God has given you?
  - In this passage, Jesus did not just take a day off, but this extended trip may indicate an extended break. There are times we need extended time away from regular work and routines. Vacations, retreats, and breaks can remind us are more than our work. We are made for God and to dwell in God's justice and peace. How are you now making time for extended breaks, vacation, or retreat?
    - How have you found that resting in God helps your regular work and responsibilities?
    - Jesus could not escape the notice of people in Tyre or when he came closer to home at the Decapolis because of the works of

God that Jesus had been doing. How have you noticed the work of Jesus in the life of someone else?

- How have you noticed the work of Jesus directing your behavior in work and relationships?
  - In this passage, there are people who do not only notice what Jesus has done in his work, but they seek Jesus to work in their lives and they went to him. What do you need to seek Jesus about today?
    - Though these passages indicate Jesus was trying to escape notice, he could not. It is significant that when people approached Jesus for mercy, healing, and help that Jesus did not ignore them or hang up a sign that said, "do not disturb." In Gospel work or rest, Jesus was able to respond in love of God and neighbor with compassion and mercy. How might you make space for the work of Jesus to come through in your work and rest?

*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.

*Petition for God's Blessing from Psalm 90:17 (NRSV)*

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon on,  
and prosper for us the work of our hands –  
O prosper the work of our hands.