

PRAY EVERY DAY May 29, 2022 Resource

*Household Prayer: Morning**

Gracious God, we thank you for bringing us through the night and for making this new day. You send us out rested and uplifted by your presence. Wherever we go, whatever our work today, whomever we meet, help us to greet our tasks and our leisure with joy. We give you thanks, through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Hymn or Prayer "Whether the Word Be Preached or Read" by Charles Wesley, 1783

Whether the Word be preached or read, no saving benefit I gain
from empty sounds or letters dead; unprofitable all and vain,
unless by faith thy word I hear and see its heavenly character.

Unmixed with faith, the Scripture gives no comfort, life, or light to see,
but me in darker darkness leaves, implunged in deeper misery,
overwhelmed with nature's sorest ills. The Spirit saves, the letter kills.

If God enlighten through his Word, I shall my kind Enlightener bless;
but void and naked of my Lord, what are all verbal promises?
Nothing to me, till faith divine inspire, inspeak, and make them mine.

Jesus, the appropriating grace 'tis thine on sinners to bestow.
Open mine eyes to see thy face, open my heart thyself to know.
And then I through thy Word obtain sure present, and eternal gain.

The Bishop Sharma Lewis Read the Bible in 2022 Challenge (One Year Bible Reading Plan)

You may find this plan on the Virginia Annual Conference website <https://vaumc.org> or pick up a copy at KUMC.

The Bible in a Year with KUMC

This plan is available at KUMC and on the church website. This plan can be started at anytime.

Small Group or personal study

- What was your furthest moment from God this week?
- What was your closest moment to God this week?
- Read Luke 24:44-53.
- Luke and Acts were written by Luke. The Ascension of Jesus is the bridge between that Gospel and Acts. Read the Ascension stories in Luke 24:44-53 and Acts 1. One of the things apparent in the Ascension stories is that the resurrection and ascension of Jesus are not the end of the story of God's salvation.
- Jesus "opened their minds to understand the scriptures" (v. 45). Bible reading is good, but understanding what God wants us to know comes through God's gracious giving. Charles Wesley wrote a prayer for asking for God's help to understand the scriptures. Pray that prayer or one of your own when you come to reading the Bible. What has helped open your mind to understanding the scriptures and Jesus Christ?

- The disciples were commissioned to be witnesses for Jesus to all nations. The disciples waited for the Holy Spirit to empower them. Being a witness for Jesus does not come from our own strength: it is God-powered. In Acts 1, the disciples chose one to replace Judas, so there would be 12. In Acts 2, the Holy Spirit filled all who in the upper room, about 120, not just the 12. In Acts, the Holy Spirit regularly fills believers in Christ and is not limited to the 12 or 120. To all nations is a big assignment and Christ shared the Holy Spirit with believers in Acts who were women or men, Jew or Gentile, slave or free. Christ continues to share the Holy Spirit and involve disciples in the great commission. How are you waiting or being filled with the Holy Spirit for being a witness for Jesus?

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.

*Household Prayer: Evening**

Wondrous God, we marvel that this day has ended, filled with marks of your love even in moments of strife. Now give us rest. Comfort those who have no bed this night, and keep them safe. We bow our heads in gratitude for food, work friends, family, challenges, and accomplishments. We pray this in the name of the One who watches over us day and night. Amen.

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