

PRAY EVERY DAY May 8, 2022 Resource

*Household Prayer: Morning**

Holy God, you have called a people to be your family out of every tribe, language, and nation, to love and serve you daily in a world of beauty, complexity, and diversity. Help us to honor and respect the dignity of difference as we seek to be one with you and each other this day and always. Amen.

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 John 15:1-32

• John Wesley used the image of a house for the ways God brings grace into our lives. The porch was the image for prevenient grace. Prevenient grace is God's work in welcoming, guiding, inviting, awakening, and wooing people to salvation. This prevenient grace is for all and works in everyone's life. God desires that all would be saved. Jesus doesn't wait for people to come up to heaven, but Jesus comes to meet us where we are. In John 15, Jesus has a place where he welcomes those of disrepute and who are rejected by others (tax collectors and sinners) and Jesus welcomes religious leaders and people who are honored (Pharisees and scribes). Imagine Jesus having a front porch where all are welcomed and invited to come through the front door of salvation. What do you imagine that porch looking like?

• Notice the numbers/value involved in the three parables of lost sheep, lost coin, lost sons. Sheep: 1 lost out of 99. Coins: 1 lost out of 10. Children: 2 lost out of 2. Whatever the values, percentages, or number – God and heaven seek out sinners and those who are mistaken about who the grace of God is for. Where would you struggle with the idea of the prevenient grace of God? How might you struggle with the idea that God's grace is working in your life and that the fullness of God's salvation and love are for you? Who might it be a struggle for you to accept that Jesus has grace for and that Jesus and heaven are working to bring to the front porch?

• Spend a few minutes reflecting on the hymn "I Sought the Lord" and consider God's prevenient grace that acts first.

Hymn "I Sought the Lord" by Anonymous, 1890

I sought the Lord, and afterward I knew
he moved my soul to seek him, seeking me.
It was not I that found, O Savior true;
no, I was found of thee.

Thou didst reach forth thy hand and mine enfold;

I walked and sank not on the storm-vexed sea.
'Twas not so much that I on thee took hold,
as thou, dear Lord, on me.

I find, I walk, I love, but oh, the whole
of love is but my answer Lord, to thee!
For thou wert long beforehand with my soul;
always thou lovedst me.

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**

O Shepherd of all, you have brought us to the close of another day; for this gift and the blessings we now name, we give you thanks....All that we have and all that we are come from you; and so, trusting in the goodness of your divine care, let us lie down this night in peace, that tomorrow we may rise to greet you in resurrection joy. Amen.

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