

PRAY EVERY DAY September 4, 2022 Resource

*Household Prayer: Morning**

Abiding God, awaken my heart to greet you and open my lips to sing your praise. May I follow the way of Christ ever more fully this day. 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 Luke 14:25-35.
- As the crowds gathered around Jesus and traveled with him he called them to consider the high cost of being a disciple of Jesus. In the stories he told of the unfinished tower, the king who surrendered, and salt that lost its flavor the point is to be ready to pay the full cost rather than the foolishness of beginning something that won't be finished. What sorts of things have you begun but when you realized the cost, decided to quit or not finish? Looking back, do you feel you made the right choice to not go on in that circumstance?
 - Jesus has three ways here for the crowds to consider the cost of discipleship and us as well. The first way to count the cost is hating family and your own life itself. Think allegiance to Jesus rather than other forms of identity like family, self, race, job, nation, political party, etc. What are your identities and responsibilities that drive your behavior, take up most of your time, and direct what you do and don't do?
 - What would be the cost to you of putting Jesus before all people and between all people and you as mediator for your actions?
 - Second, Jesus calls for disciples to cross bearing and following him. Cross bearing is not suffering for suffering's sake. Cross bearing and following Jesus is suffering for the sake of Jesus and the world for forgiving sins, loving neighbor and enemy, healing the sick, caring for the poor, and following Jesus in everything. What is the cost of bearing your cross and following Jesus? What grace may come to others through your carrying your cross?
 - Third, Jesus says a disciple must give up all their possessions. Things must not get in the way of obedience to Jesus. What would be the cost to you of putting all your possessions to the purposes and glory of Jesus Christ?

A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low by thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.
And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it 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?

*Household Prayer: Evening**

Lord, you know my strengths and weaknesses and how I long to serve you. Thank you for the love and guidance you have shown for me this day. In your book of life are written all my days; in you I fully trust. Bless me as I sleep this night and bring me to tomorrow, rejoicing in the gift of living ever close to you. Amen.

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