

Making a Difference in my own life Making a Difference in the lives around me

Weeks 3 and 4 2009

Name: _____

March 2009

Here are the readings for weeks 3 and 4.

I know that some of this has been pretty tough for some of you. Some of you are still trying to figure out the program.

Please feel free to ASK QUESTIONS as well as share your thoughts and experiences with others.

The best way to move forward is have people keep you accountable. Talk with Family and friends about this.

It will help not only you but others as well. Be faithful and you'll be amazed about what God will do through your life as well as in you.

Praying for you,

Jackson

Quick Recap:

Chose the following:

Food Item(s) _____

Media Item(s) _____

What do you want God to do/ answer/help you to start or stop?

When will you do the readings/ projects?

Who is helping you keep accountable?

If you need to refer back to previous weeks, look back on your previous books OR download a new one at CEFCYouth.com

You can also share your stories there.

Week 3	
Verse for the week: Proverbs 18:21	
Blessing Evangelism	
^{"21} The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit."	(NIV)
^{•21} Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit. "	
	(NASB)
^{"21} The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequent	œs."
	(NLT)
^{"21} Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits."	
	(ESV)
^{"21} Words can bring death or life!	
Talk too much, and you will eat	
everything you say."	
	(CEV)

Sunday, March 15th 2009

A Lighthouse to your Neighborhood

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages: Matthew 5:42-44 James 2:7-9 Ephesians 4:24-26

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Matthew 19 Luke 10 Romans 15:1-3 Proverbs 25:16-18

Matthew 22:39 Romans 13:9-11 Leviticus 19:14-18 Galatians 5:14

- Pray for your Neighbors.

Day 15

-Ask God to bless your neighbors.

-Ask your neighbors what you can pray for them about.

- Take their trash out on trash day.

-Shov el their driv eway.

(If they ask why, tell them it's because Jesus loves them.)

-Ask Godfor opportunities to love and bless your neighbors.

- Ask God for opportunities to share His lov e with your neighbors.

-Ask God to give you creative ways to minister to your neighbors.







Monday, March 16th 2009

Gate Control

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Genesis 24:60 Isaiah 26:2 Matthew 16:16-18



Gate: noun

1: an opening in a wall or fence2: a city or castle entrance offen with defensive structures (as towers)3 a: the frame or door that closes a gate b: a movable barrier (as at a grade crossing)4 a: a means of entrance or exit b: starting gate c: an area (as at a railroad station or an airport) for departure or arrival

If you are coming back to Susanville from Reno, you have to pass a check point where the Highway patrol routinely checks vehicles for various things. Those are in place to help with keeping things in or out. Most of the schools in town have pretty open campuses. There are not many bars or serious physical restrictions on the campus. In ancient times, gates were incredibly important to keep out predatory animals and invaders. Gates assisted in controlling what came in and went out of cities, farms and other settlements. What comes in and goes out of your school campus? Your workplace?

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional	passages.
2 Chronicles 8	Nehemiah 12:30
Psalm 147:12-14	Matthew 7:12-14

- Pray about what comes in and goes out of your school.

- Pray for those who help/assist/run your campus security.

- Pray for campus safety.

- Ask those who help/assist with campus security for ways that you can pray for them.





Day 17 Tuesday, March 17th 2009

Cookies, Doughnuts and various food options

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages: Matthew 20:26-28 Mark 10:42-44 John 12:25-27



The Bible speaks much about service. We are called to serve others as we follow the example of Christ who was the ultimate servant. True service usually costs. To serve someone else requires time, effort, and usually sacrifice. Sometimes the sacrifice is monetary, sometimes the sacrifice may be intangible.

Though there are numerous ways to serve, for most people, food is something tangible that can satisfy almost immediately.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

John 13:15-21	Acts 4:28-31
2 Corinthians 4:4-6	2 Corinthians 6:3-13
Galatians 1:9-11	Ephesians 3:6-12
Philippians 2:6-8	2 Timothy 2:23-28

- Ask God to reveal ways that you can serve those around you.

-Get someone lunch

(If they ask why, tell them it's because Jesus loves them.)

- Buy or make food to give to people before school.

-Buy or makefood to give out at lunch.



Wednesday, March 18th 2009

Humility

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Matthew 11:28-30 Matthew 18:3-5 Matthew 23:11-13 1 Peter 3:8-9 James 4:5-11



hum·ble Function: adjective

1: not proud or haughty : not arrogant or assertive2: reflecting, expressing, or offered in a spirit of deference or submission.

Humility. More often than not, we tend to view humility as looking down on ourselves. That is not the case. If you look at the definition, the focus is more about not being arrogant or seeing yourself to me more than what you really are. Our society tends to think that we are 'above' certain tasks. Cleaning bathrooms and picking up trash are two things that most of us try to av oid. Earlier this year when our new president came into office, there was much talk about making a change and taking personal responsibility, y et after the ceremony, trash was left all over Washington D.C. Americans overall are known to be sloppy and messy. There are hundreds of staff members at amusement parks schools and fair grounds whose only job is to clean up trash and to clean bathrooms.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additio	nal passages.
Matthew 20:26-28	Psalm 18:26-28
Psalm 25:8-10	Psalm 147:5-6
Psalm 149:3-4	Proverbs 3:33-35
lsaiah 2:10-12	Ephesians 4:1-3
James 1:9-10	1 Peter 5:4-7
Philippians 2:1-11	Luke 14:10-15

- Ask God to humble you.
- Take some time and pick up trash around school/work.
- -Throw away someone else's trash.
- Take out trash for a teacher.
- Clean the bathroom at home.

Thursday, March 19th 2009

Lost or Missing

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages: Galatians 6:1-2 Romans 15:1-2

No one really likes being lost. Sometimes it can be more frustrating when you lose something. God shares his concern for the last and also encourages us to not forget those who are missing. Who are some people you haven't seen at church for a while?

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages. 1 Thessalonians 5:14-28 Matthew 18:9-11 Luke 15:1-5 Luke 15:7-10



- Ask God to reveal who hasn't been at church/y outh group for a while.

-Call up someone who hasn't been to church for a while.

- Send a miss you card to someone who hasn't been around.

-Send an e-mail to someone who hasn't been around.

- Go visit some people who have not been to church in a while.

- Meet with one or two people and come up with a plan to help people feel more welcome to church.

Day 20 Friday, March 20th 2009

Feed Me Feed Me!

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages: Matthew 25:35-40 Psalm 107:5-10 Psalm 146-6-8

Hunger pains. Even when we are really hungry, we seem to still have options. God's heart breaks for those in need. Ask God to help you to see the needs around you and to help fill them.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Job 226-10	Psalm 34:9-11
Psalm 50_11-13	Proverbs 13:24-25
Proverbs 25:20-22	Matthew 15:31-33
Mark 8:2-4	Romans 12:20
1 Corinthians 4:11	1 Corinthians 11:21

- Pack an extra lunch and give it away.

- Take some time to pray for those who are starving

-Help serve food at Crossroads

- Help a needy family.
- Donate food to Crossroads.
- Give food to a homeless person.



Day 21 Saturday, March 21st 2009

Love Dad

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages: Malachi 4:5-6

Fathers. Sometimes we can't help but love them. Sometimes they may drive us crazy. Regardless of how we relate to fathers here on Earth. Our heavenly Father is perfect and surpasses anything we can encounter here.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Matthew 5:47-48	Matthew 6:13-15
Matthew 6:25-27	Matthew 7
Matthew 18	Mark 11:24-26
Luke 15	John 6

- Pray for your dad.
- Ask God to reveal ways to bless / lovey our dad.
- -If you need to ask for your dad's forgiv eness
- If you need to, forgive your dad.
- -Give your dad a hug
- Thank your dad.
- Do something nice for your dad.
- Write your dad a note/card
- Serve your dad in a practical way.
- Make your dad some food.

Week 4

Verse for the week: John 13:14-15

Servant Evangelism

¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. (NIV)

¹⁴"If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

¹⁵"For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. (NASB)

¹⁴ And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. ¹⁵ I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you. (NLT)

¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. (ESV)

¹⁴And if your Lord and teacher has washed your feet, you should do the same for each other. ¹⁵I have set the example, and you should do for each other exactly what I have done for you. (CEV)



Sunday, March 22nd, 2009

Serving the Community

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages: James 1:19-27 Matthew 20:25-28 Romans 14:17-19

Service. A lot of times we would prefer to be served, than to serve someone else. Some times we go to the other extreme and try to fix everything for other people. Today we are focusing on meeting real needs of other people around us. You can refer to your "lighthouse sheet " from Day 3. Jesus shares with us the importance of serving not only other people in general, but to serve people that others neglect or forget. Who are some people around you that you would rather neglect or forget? Think about those around you at school, in your neighborhood, or other people or groups of people you avoid.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages.

Mark 10:35-45	Romans 12:6-8	Luke 1:68-75
Luke 22:24-28	Galatians 5:13-14	Ephesians 6:5-8

- Pray for people who are neglected, orphans, single parent families, widows, widowers, homeless ...

- Ask God to reveal ways to express HIS love to these people.
- -Volunteer at Crossroads
- Volunteer at M.A.M.A.'s
- -Visit, send a card or call a widow or widower
- Volunteer to help out a single parent family
- Visit a Nursing Home or an elderly neighbor
- Take outyour neighbor's trash.
- Invite someone to lunch who normally eats alone.



Monday, March 23rd 2009

Thirst Quencher

Day 23

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages: Matthew 25:35-40 John 6:34-36 Romans 12:19-21

Thirst. If you have every played a sport or if you have ever done a lot of yard work outside, you know that the effects of being thirsty can be pretty intense. If you have ever had something cold to drink on a hot day, or something warm to drink on a cold day, you know about the comfort and refreshment that follows. Jesus tells us that he is the Ultimate thirst quencher. (Gatorade has nothing on Him.) If you watch your family, your friends and even your own life, you'll see that everything in life leaves you wanting more. Jesus desires to fill the void that we feel.

Here are some options to consider:



-Read some of these additional passages.

Psalm 107:8-10 Isaiah 55:1-3

0 Isaiah 21:13-15 John 4:12-14

- Pack an extra drink for lunch and give it away.

- Take some time to pray for those who have a void in their lives.

-Surprise a sports team with bottled waters.

- If it's a hot day, give a cold bottled water to a crossing guard or someone who has to spend a lot of time outside.

- Give a bottled or a canned drink to an adult at your school

- Give away a gift card to a coffee shop

Tuesday, March 24th, 2009

Strangers and Aliens

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:Matthew 20:35-40Hebrews 13:2-4Psalm 146:8-10Jeremiah 22:2-3

Strangers and Aliens. We are trained to see Strangers as bad and we aren't too fond of aliens, regardless if they are from another country or even 'other worlds'. For many generations, the Israelites were 'strangers' and 'aliens' to the many countries that they inhabited. God shares the importance of treating these people well. Granted, you are not likely to deal with many 'aliens', but you do encounter strangers on a daily basis. What are some ways that you can bless them?

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages. Psalm 39:11-13 Psalm 69:7-9 Malachi 3:5-6 Ephesians 2:18-20 Colossians 1:21-23

- Pray for those strangers that you encounter (at School, at work, and in your neighborhood).

- Ask God to reveal ways to express HIS love to these people.
- -Offer to help out a stranger
- Eat lunch with someone you don't know and get to know them.

-Invite a stranger to church.

- Meet someone you don't know
- Invite an outsider into your circle of friends.
- Let a stranger go in line before you.

Day 25 Wednesday, March 25th 2009

Clothing and Covering

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages: Matthew 25:35-40 Ezekiel 18:7-8 1 Timothy 6:7-9 Matthew 5:39-41

"What are you going to wear?" It's amazing how much time and money that we spend on dothing. In some areas of the world, a pair of jeans is several months worth of salary. The majority of us not only have several sets of clothes, but a large amount of dothes we haven't worn for years. The Bible talks about the importance of caring for those in need and clothing fits into that.

Here are some options to consider:

 -Read some of these additional passages.

 Ezekiel 18:15-17
 Acts 20:32-34

 Exodus 22:26-27
 Deuteronomy 22:1-4

 Deuteronomy 24:12-18
 Luke 6:28-30

 Luke 22:35-37
 2 Timothy 4:12-14

 Mark 10:49-51
 Mark 11:6-9

- Donate dothes to Crossroads

- Donate dothes to M.A.M.A.s

-Give dothes away to a family that needs them.

- If it's a cold day, bring an extra sweatshirt or jacket to loan.

- Knit someone a scarf

- Instead of buying another outfit, Use that money to help someone in need.

Day 26 Thursday, March 26th, 2009

Visiting the Sick

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:Matthew 20:36-40Matthew 10:1Psalm 41:2-4James 5:13-16

Getting sick is never fun. Neither is staying in the hospital. When you are sick and isolated, it can be very easy to not only feel alone, but sad. Ministering to people who are sick does not have to be complicated. It can be something as simple as sending a card or taking the time to visit. Jesus spent a lot of time with those who were sick. God desires for us to pray for and minister to those as well.

Here are some options to consider:



-Read some of these additional passages. Matthew 9:11-13 Matthew 10:7-9 Mark 2:17

- Pray for peopley ou know who have health problems

- Ask God to reveal ways to express HIS love to these people.
- -- Send a card to someone who is sick
- Visit someone in the hospital

-Visit someone in a nursing home

- Take a friend to visit someone sick
- Call someone who is sick
- Get a sick teacher a Kleenex box and some tea bags.

Day 27 Friday, March 27th 2009

Prisoners and Prisons

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages:

Matthew 25:35-40 Hebrews 10:33-35 Luke 4:17-19 Hebrews 13:2-4



Prisoners and Prisons. Here in Lassen County we are incredibly affected by the Prisons, the Jail and Juvenile Hall. It could be as simple as that we have family that works there. We may know someone who is in there. We all know someone who is negatively affected by a friend or relative being in there. Though some of us are heavily impacted by those in physical prisons, the rest of us struggle with other types of prisons. We may be trapped by a particular sin. We may be trapped by even a way of thinking. God desires us to be free from these prisons of addictions and of past hurts. He also desires for us to share His hope with those still trapped and confined.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages. Genesis 39 Psalm 142:7 Isaiah 42:6-8 Isaiah 51:13-15 Isaiah 61:1-3 Acts 16:24-34

- Pray for those imprisoned, in jail, or trapped in sin. Pray that God would reveal options to you.

- Pray for those who work in these environments. Pray for their safety and that they would receive God's hope and strength and life in the midst of these difficult places.

-Write to someone you know in jail/prison an encouraging note.

- Write a note of encouragement and appreciation to someone who works at a prison/jail.

- Write a note of encouragement and appreciation to someone who has a loved one in jail. Day 28 Saturday, March 28th 2009

Moms

Take some time to read the Applicable Passages: Proverbs 10:1 Proverbs 23:24-26 Proverbs 23:22-23 Proverbs 6:19-21

A comedian once sais that it was ironic that when a man spends hours and hours prepping for basketball and football with their dad, they become famous and the first thing they say on camera is "Thanks Mom!" The idea of showing respect to mothers, regardless of how you do with them, is an important concept not only found in the old testament, but Jesus shows great personal examples as well. In Luke 2, Mary is anxious because she couldn't find Jesus. When she does and she questions her, he isn't rude to her. Later on in John 2, She wants Jesus to perform a Mirade before His time, but out of respect to His mother, He obeys. In John 19, when Jesus is dying on the cross, His focus is on His mother being cared for instead of solely on His pain.

Here are some options to consider:

-Read some of these additional passages. 1 Timothy 5:1-3 Proverbs 20:19-21 Proverbs 15:19-21 Proverbs 1:1-9

- Pray for your mother.
- Thank God for your mother

-Give your mother a thank you card / letter

- Do some chores for your mother
- Make your mother dinner
- Give your mother a gift
- Spend some time with your mother.



Week 5

Verse for the week: 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Servant Evangelism

⁴The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. (NIV)

⁴for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. ⁵We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, (NASB)

⁴ ^[a]We use God's mighty weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. ⁵ We destroy every proud obstade that keeps people from knowing God. We capture their rebellious thoughts and teach them to obey Christ. (NLT)

⁴For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. ⁵We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, (ESV)

⁴or fight our battles with the weapons of this world. Instead, we use God's power that can destroy fortresses. We destroy arguments ⁵and every bit of pride that keeps anyone from knowing God. We capture people's thoughts and make them obey Christ. (CEV)