Weekly Bible Reading - January 2020

2020 Readings - "teaching them to obey"

For 2020, the readings will focus on our need to obey the teachings of Jesus. We live in an ever increasing secular world that is trying to pull us away from following Jesus. Sign in to RightNow Media and view this short video on obedience which helps set the stage for this discussion. Under the Holland Park listing, look for "There's No Middle Road" by Francis Chan.

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//Jan 5//

In **Matthew 28** we have the final instructions given by Jesus to his disciples before he goes back to the Father. "**19** Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Hebrews 11:8 - Abraham believed God and obeyed.
John 3:36 - the opposite of belief is disobedience
Gal 5:1-10 - **vs 7** tells us the Galatians had stopped obeying the truth

1. How complete is your obedience to Jesus?
2. Are there commands you are ignoring because you do not think they are important or that they do apply to us today?
3. What prevents you from obeying the way Jesus wants?
4. What are the consequences of not obeying?

//Jan 12//

To hear, know, and see are not the same as obeying and doing. Jesus gives us a parable at the end of the sermon on the mount to drive home this point. James also gives us parable about looking into a mirror which results in either forgetting or doing.

Matt 7:21-29, James 1:19-25

1. Only those who do what Jesus says will enter the kingdom.
2. Are you building on a solid foundation?
3. Are you playing the fool and building on sand?
4. Do you just look into the mirror and forget or practice/do what God's word says?

//Jan 19//

Discipleship is not a group activity. We are not disciples simply because we hang around others who practice their faith. We all individually make the decision to be a follower and live out that commitment each day. We need other to encourage and help us on the journey but others cannot walk the life of a disciple for us.

Luke 18:18-23 and Luke 19:1-10

We have 2 stories of rich people who come to Jesus with very different outcomes.

1. Why do these stories end so differently?
2. What was the rich young ruler seeking?
3. What was Zacchaeus seeking?
4. What are you seeking from Jesus?

//Jan 26//

This week's reading will focus on the need for our discipleship with Jesus to be personal. The reading is from **John 21**.

In this section we see Jesus caring for all the disciples but also on a mission to call out Peter for denying him and finally restoring him to the task he was called to perform. Peter was being called to walk with and care for the church.

This walk would lead him to a painful death just as Jesus had experienced. Yet, Peter failed to understand that each walk will be different and not all have the same outcome.

John 21:22 gets to the heart of this message - **22** Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!"

1. Are you prepared to follow Jesus wherever that may lead?
2. Is God calling you to a purpose/task but you are not obeying because you do not see others walking that path?