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# GRATITUDE AND SERMON JOURNAL

Signs and Wonders

March 7 - April 21, 2019

**Love Like Jesus** 

April 22 - May 26, 2019

Dear Church,

A particularly inspiring book for me is "Atomic Habits." An atom is a tiny particle of matter invisible to the naked eye. Though an atom is small, it has a dramatic effect. The application of "Atomic Habits" is not to make enormous changes but only focus on one percent. Don't resolve to lose 30 pounds; lose three. Do it daily. Do it consistently. Do it over time. Do not focus on momentary gains; focus on results. Doing the right "atomic" thing again and again over time becomes a habit. We become the sum of our habits.

This sermon journal is intended for daily use, consistently and over time. Helping Others Follow Jesus is more than a one-time event. Atomic habits are what John Wesley intended for the Methodist people (they didn't call it that in the 1700s because atoms weren't invented yet ©).

I want you to use this journal every day and come to worship every Sunday. Take the challenge over these next twelve weeks. Let these be your atomic habits. Use this journal with your daily readings and be intentional in giving thanks. (Paul told one congregation, "give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you," 1 Thessalonians 5:18.)

Finally, I'd ask you to consider bringing your Gratitude and Sermon Journal with you to Sunday worship. I find this helps me be more mindful of the Word of God. (You also might consider gifting one of these to a friend.)

The series on "Signs and Wonders" takes us through Easter. The Gospel of John is our foundation to look at Jesus' miracles. These miracles are signs that point to a greater revelation of His identity: Jesus Christ is Lord. We follow Easter with a relational series. A book by Les Parrott, "Love Like That," teaches us to *love like Jesus*. The Gospels show the characteristics and nature of Jesus in His relationships to people in His ministry. He is portrayed as being: mindful, approachable, grace-full, bold and self-giving. With all things in life, Jesus is our model.

In Christ,



Consider using this journal not only for yourself but also as an opportunity to meet with others in a small group. The Christian faith is about making disciples of Jesus. This journal provides a mutually blessed way for you to do precisely that. Below are questions your small group may use for weekly discussion.

#### **Weekly Sermon Reflection Questions:**

- Review the key scripture(s).
- Review the key point(s) from the sermon.
  - How were you encouraged?
  - How were you challenged?
  - What questions did it create?
  - What convictions did it bring?
- What was the pastor asking of you, even expecting you to do in response?
- How has the Lord spoken to you through this sermon?
- What are you going to do as a result?

# Scripture Readings

## SIGNS AND WONDERS

WATER INT	O WINE	THE MAN B	ORN BLIND
<b>3/7</b>	John 2:1-11	<b>4/1</b>	John 9:1
□ 3/8	1 Kings 17:8-16;	<b>4/2</b>	John 9:8
	2 Kings 4:1-7	<b>4/3</b>	John 9:1
<b>3/9</b>	Luke 7:18-35	<b>4/4</b>	John 9:1
<b>3/10</b>	John 2:1-11	<b>4/5</b>	John 9:2
		<b>4/6</b>	John 9:3
THE OFFICI	AL'S SON	<b>4/7</b>	John 9:1
<b>3/11</b>	John 4:46-54		
<b>3/12</b>	Daniel 4:1-3	RAISING LA	ZARUS
<b>3/13</b>	Matthew 8:5-13	<b>4/8</b>	John 11
<b>3/14</b>	Luke 17:20-21	<b>4/9</b>	John 11
<b>3/15</b>	Acts 2:14-41	<b>4/10</b>	John 11
<b>3/16</b>	Hebrews 2:1-4		(preachi
<b>3/17</b>	John 4:46-54	<b>4/11</b>	John 11
		<b>4/12</b>	John 12:
FEEDING TI	HE 5,000	<b>4/13</b>	John 12:
<b>3/18</b>	John 6:1-15	<b>4/14</b>	John 11:
<b>3/19</b>	Matthew 14:13-21		
	Mark 6:30-44	THE RESUR	RECTION
<b>3/21</b>	John 6:22-40	<b>4/15</b>	John 20
<b>3/22</b>	John 6:41-59	<b>4/16</b>	Matthey
<b>3</b> /23	John 6:60-71	<b>4/17</b>	1 Corint
<b>3</b> /24	John 6:1-15	<b>4/18</b>	John 13
		<b>4/19</b>	John 19
WALKING O	ON WATER	<b>4/20</b>	John 19:
<b>3</b> /25	John 6:16-24	<b>4/21</b>	John 20
<b>3</b> /26	Job 38		
<b>3</b> /27	Jonah 1		
<b>3/28</b>	Matthew 14:22-33		
<b>3/29</b>	Mark 6:45-52		
<b>3/30</b>	Luke 8:22-25		
<b>3/31</b>	John 6:16-24		

#### John 9:1-7 John 9:8-12 John 9:13-17 John 9:18-23 John 9:24-34 John 9:35-41

John 9:1-7

#### 4ZARUS

<b>4</b> /8	John 11:1-16
<b>4</b> /9	John 11:17-37
<b>4/10</b>	John 11:38-44
	(preaching text)
<b>4/11</b>	John 11:45-57
<b>4/12</b>	John 12:1-11
<b>4/13</b>	John 12:12-19
<b>4/14</b>	John 11:38-44

#### RECTION

<b>4/15</b>	John 20:24-31
<b>4/16</b>	Matthew 12:38-42
<b>4/17</b>	1 Corinthians 1:18-31
<b>4/18</b>	John 13:31-35
<b>4/19</b>	John 19:16-30
<b>4/20</b>	John 19:31-42
<b>4/21</b>	John 20:24-31

# Scripture Readings

# **LOVE LIKE JESUS**

MINDFUL		APPROACH	ABLE
<b>4/22</b>	Luke 19:1-10	<b>5/13</b>	Luke 15:1-10
<b>4/23</b>	Matthew 25:14-30	<b>5/14</b>	Matthew 9
<b>4/24</b>	John 4:1-30	<b>5/15</b>	Mark 14:1-9
<b>4/25</b>	2 Corinthians 4:7-18	<b>5/16</b>	Luke 13:10-17
<b>4/26</b>	Hebrews 2:1-9	<b>5/17</b>	John 3:1-21
<b>4/27</b>	1 Peter 3:8-12	<b>5/18</b>	Hebrews 4:14-16
<b>4/28</b>	Luke 19:1-10	<b>5/19</b>	Luke 15:1-10
BOLD		SELF-GIVIN	IG
<b>4/29</b>	Matthew 21:12-17	<b>5/20</b>	John 15:12-17
<b>4/30</b>	Acts 4:13-31	<b>□</b> 5/21	Romans 12:9-21
<b>5/1</b>	Ephesians 3:7-13	<b>□</b> 5/22	1 Thessalonians 3:11-13
<b>5/2</b>	2 Corinthians 3:12-18	<b>□</b> 5/23	1 Peter 4:7-11
<b>□</b> 5/3	Philippians 1:12-18	<b>5/24</b>	1 John 3:11-24
<b>5/4</b>	Philemon 8-16	<b>5/25</b>	1 John 4:13-21
<b>5/5</b>	Matthew 21:12-17	<b>5/26</b>	John 15:12-17
GRACE-FUL	L		
<b>□</b> 5/6	John 1:14-18		
<b>5/7</b>	Matthew 18:21-35		
<b>□</b> 5/8	John 8:1-11		
<b>□</b> 5/9	Ephesians 2:1-10		
<b>5/10</b>	2 Corinthians 12:1-10		
<b>□</b> 5/11	Revelation 22:6-21		
<b>□</b> 5/12	John 1:14-18		

March 7 - April 21, 2019

## Thursday, March 7, 2019 John 2:1-11

Who would think that Jesus' first miracle would have been on this occasion in this tiny town? A wedding was the highlight of village life. It was a disgrace for a host to run out of wine. On the surface, this first miracle seems odd. Yet, Moses' first miracle was to demonstrate the sovereignty of God. He turned the water of the Nile into blood (Exodus 7). The prophets, Elijah and Elisha, both miraculously multiplied oil to meet the needs of two widows. Signs and wonders always demonstrate God's sovereignty and usually demonstrate His power to meet human needs. When Jesus turned 120-180 gallons of water into wine, it showed His sovereignty, power and compassion for others. The point of the story is not the elements; it is the identity of Jesus and the response of people to Him. Signs and wonders are not ends in themselves but always point in the same direction—who Jesus is and why people should follow Him. The bottom line is found in verse 11: "This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him." This sets up our series on "Signs
and Wonders."

**APPLICATION:** How does this story affect your impression of the kind of person Jesus is? Can you imagine Jesus enjoying Himself at a wedding (or ever)? Does He strike you as a person you would like to spend eternity with? How does the temperament and personality of Jesus in this story compare with John the Baptist? What sign(s), event(s), experience(s) led you to put your faith in Jesus?

#### WATER INTO WINE

## Friday, March 8, 2019 1 Kings 17:8-16; 2 Kings 4:1-7

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Saturday, March 9, 2019 Luke 7:18-35

•	What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text? How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon? Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you are thankful.

#### WATER INTO WINE

## Sunday, March 10, 2019 John 2:1-11

Sermon Notes:	

## Monday, March 11, 2019 John 4:46-54

This story shows signs and wonders were essential to reveal Jesus' unique identity. This is a long-distance miracle. It is similar to the healing of the centurion's servant (Matthew 8:5-13).

Signs advertise, advise, alert, counsel, direct, notify and warn. If we do not have good signage it is easy to be confused, lost or endangered. The Bible has a lot of signage. It always points to Jesus Christ. Jesus is God's Sign. He is God incarnate, worthy of worship, praise and glory.

Luke 17:20-21 shows some resisted THE Sign (Jesus). He basically said

they do not need more signs because THE Sign and the Kingdom of God was present. We must not forget miraculous signs and wonders always defer to THE Sign, Jesus.

**APPLICATION:** It is important to understand the role of "signs and wonders" in the Bible. Consider doing a word study on "sign" or "signs." (Check out "Bible Gateway" online). How many references to signs do you find? What do they mean (or "signify")? Why do you think they are so prevalent in Scripture?

#### THE OFFICIAL'S SON

## Tuesday, March 12, 2019 Daniel 4:1-3

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Wednesday, March 13, 2019 Matthew 8:5-13

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?
   Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

are thankful.

#### THE OFFICIAL'S SON

## Thursday, March 14, 2019 Luke 17:20-21

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

## Friday, March 15, 2019 Acts 2:14-41

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

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#### THE OFFICIAL'S SON

## Saturday, March 16, 2019 Hebrews 2:1-4

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Sunday, March 17, 2019 John 4:46-54

Sermon Notes:	

#### FEEDING THE 5,000

## Monday, March 18, 2019 John 6:1-15

This is the only miracle found in all four Gospels. However, John adds a twist. In the "synoptic" (meaning "similar" – Matthew, Mark and Luke) this miracle at first glance could have the tag line, "And they all lived happily ever after." A closer look shows their hearts were nardened (Mark 6:52). John's Gospel describes how a serious probler developed the next day as Jesus taught, "I Am the Bread of Life." Some followers (beyond the Pharisees) weren't happy. Moses dealt with whining, bickering, complaining, "what have you done for me ately" followers in the wilderness. Jesus had critics, too. Some were offended, grumbled and walked away. People wanted the free meal out balked at His words.	
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APPLICATION: What do you make of the sacrament of Holy Communion? How hard is it for you to believe He is present in the bread and juice? Or that He miraculously nourishes our souls when we partake? Three other followers (Philip, Andrew and a boy) chipped in, even though it seemed their contributions were minimal. Where might you find yourself in this story? Look at the people and objects involved in this sign. How might God use you for His glory?

## Tuesday, March 19, 2019 Matthew 14:13-21

•	What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text? How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon? Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you are thankful.
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#### FEEDING THE 5,000

## Wednesday, March 20, 2019 Mark 6:30-44

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Thursday, March 21, 2019 John 6:22-40

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading

•	today's text? How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon? Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you are thankful.
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#### FEEDING THE 5,000

## Friday, March 22, 2019 John 6:41-59

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Saturday, March 23, 2019 John 6:60-71

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon? Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you
are thankful.

## FEEDING THE 5,000

## Sunday, March 24, 2019 John 6:1-15

Sermon Notes:				

## Monday, March 25, 2019 John 6:16-24

The Jews were not a sea-faring people. Calling the "Lake of Gennesaret" a "sea" seems odd. We wouldn't call Lake Skiatook, "The Sea of Skiatook." It is 13 miles north-to-south and 7 miles east-to-west. While Luke's Gospel has a story about Jesus calming the storm, he does not have a "water-walking" story like Matthew, Mark and John. Again, this seems odd. This miracle in John's Gospel is sandwiched between the feeding of the 5,000 and Jesus' discourse on "I Am the Bread of Life."

God's creation far surpasses our comprehension. Job 38 introduces us to God's perspective. The Lord is sovereign over all. Jonah illustrates someone who was overwhelmed by hatred, disobedience and water. The disciples were overwhelmed by fear and water.

They went from a "mountain top" experience (the miraculous feeding)

danger and "back on top" all in the water, to suddenly being out of danger and "back on top" all in less than 24 hours. How could they wrap their minds around Jesus walking on water? The text notes, the were "glad" to have Him in their boat.

**APPLICATION:** Have you ever experienced a miracle or known someone who has? When have you experienced a spiritual high? Low? What do you do when overwhelmed by circumstances? When was the last time Jesus made you "glad"? How often do you worship Jesus as a worker of signs and wonders?

#### WALKING ON WATER

## Tuesday, March 26, 2019 Job 38

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Wednesday, March 27, 2019 Jonah 1

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading

today's text?

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you are thankful.

#### WALKING ON WATER

## Thursday, March 28, 2019 Matthew 14:22-33

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Friday, March 29, 2019 Mark 6:45-52

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?
  Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

are thankful.

#### WALKING ON WATER

## Saturday, March 30, 2019 Luke 8:22-25

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Sunday, March 31, 2019 John 6:16-24

Sermon Notes:	

#### THE MAN BORN BLIND

## Monday, April 1, 2019 John 9:1-7

This is one of my favorite stories in the entire Bible. It seems like a comedy routine, which is probably why I like it so much. I love verse 27 when the blind man asks his critics if they want to become followers of Jesus, too. Wouldn't you have loved to have been a fly on the wall and witnessed this spectacle?

Mere is our cast of characters in chapter nine: the disciples, Jesus, a man blind since birth, his parents, his neighbors and the Pharisees. I also love this story because the Pool of Siloam has been found in Jerusalem and stands as a sign that still points to Jesus as Lord. We also get from this story the most beloved and amazing song.

**APPLICATION:** This sign is a physical healing, but it is obvious there is more to this than meets the eye. Humans are physical, spiritual and relational beings. People can be "blind" in more ways than one. When we emerge from our blindness, we perceive what was before us all along—Jesus. Like the blind man, we are invited to be part of Jesus' story. How has Jesus helped you to "see?" When you need answers, where do you usually look?

## Tuesday, April 2, 2019 John 9:8-12

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

rite down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you e thankful.

### THE MAN BORN BLIND

## Wednesday, April 3, 2019 John 9:13-17

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?
  Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

# Thursday, April 4, 2019 John 9:18-23

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading

•	today's text? How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon? Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you are thankful.
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### THE MAN BORN BLIND

## Friday, April 5, 2019 John 9:24-34

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

# Saturday, April 6, 2019 John 9:35-41

<ul> <li>What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reactoday's text?</li> </ul>					
	How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?				
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•	Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you				
	are thankful.				
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### THE MAN BORN BLIND

# Sunday, April 7, 2019 John 9:1-7

Sermon Notes:	

### Monday, April 8, 2019 John 11:1-16

This week's readings are different, as the raising of Lazarus has a huge backdrop and we want to look at the entire episode. This story has many components. As you read this week, look at all the people involved with Jesus: Mary, Martha, Lazarus, His disciples, Thomas (the Twin), the Jews, Pharisees, chief priests, Caiaphas, Judas, the crowd and a donkey. Put yourself in the place of these individuals. What were they thinking? Whose side were they on? Why? What were their responses? The raising of Lazarus was the final straw for Jesus' opposition. They felt they were losing control, and everyone would believe in Him if He wasn't stopped. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday (also called "The Triumphal Entry"). There's a lot of heartache, disappointment, defeat, darkness, opposition and death. But since Jesus is involved, there is also much wonder, astonishment, joy, worship, attraction, hope and victory.

Of all the signs, lesus performed, this was the hig one. It would reveal

He is the Resurrection and the Life. It was His death warrant, too.					

**APPLICATION:** The first six signs and wonders dealt with life issues. This final miracle deals with death. We might be able to find food and medical supplies, but nothing compares with raising to life a man dead for four days. The raising of Lazarus shows and tells what is in store for those who accept The Sign, Jesus, into their lives. Imagine your own mortality. What does Jesus mean to you? How will this truth affect your worship on Sunday?

### **RAISING LAZARUS**

## Tuesday, April 9, 2019 John 11:17-37

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


# Wednesday, April 10, 2019 John 11:38-44 (preaching text)

•	What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading
	today's text?

How do Write o are tha	oes it tie in with the upcoming sermon? down (at least) one person/thing/situation nkful.	for which you

### **RAISING LAZARUS**

## Thursday, April 11, 2019 John 11:45-57

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Friday, April 12, 2019 John 12:1-11

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

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### **RAISING LAZARUS**

## Saturday, April 13, 2019 John 12:12-19

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


# Sunday, April 14, 2019 John 11:38-44

Sermon Notes:				

#### THE RESURRECTION

## Monday, April 15, 2019 John 20:24-31

Thomas thought he knew how following Jesus should work. The cross crushed his expectations. His disappointment gave way to cynicism. Thomas resisted the testimony of his fellow disciples. He had to discover the resurrected Christ for himself. "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into his side, I will never believe." Though he had witnessed Jesus' signs and wonders, he needed more proof than what his peers claimed. The stone-cold dead Jesus suddenly stood among them – living, breathing, flesh-and-blood with wounds still in His hands and side. This doubting disciple went from disbelief to faith.

The Resurrection answers the question, "How is Jesus' death different

from the death of any other leader?" Moses, Caesar, Mohammed, etc. all died and are still dead. The Resurrection validated Jesus' promises for all time. All the signs and wonders point to this specific claim: Jesus is Christ the Lord and the Son of God.

**APPLICATION:** Faith is easy to accept and believe for some while it is a struggle for others. God works in unexpected ways. Many benefits are given when we choose to follow Jesus: forgiveness, God's presence, purpose in life, the church as a family, and eternal life. What additional sign needs to happen for you to put your faith in Jesus Christ?

## Tuesday, April 16, 2019 Matthew 12:38-42

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?
  Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

are thankful.		

### THE RESURRECTION

## Wednesday, April 17, 2019 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

• How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Thursday, April 18, 2019 John 13:31-35

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

are thank	ful.			

### THE RESURRECTION

## Friday, April 19, 2019 John 19:16-30

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


## Saturday, April 20, 2019 John 19:31-42

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?
Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

are thankful.	-	·

## THE RESURRECTION

# Sunday, April 21, 2019 John 20:24-31

Sermon Notes:				

April 22 - May 26, 2019

## Monday, April 22, 2019 Luke 19:1-10

Jesus paid attention to people and situations overlooked by others. He spoke to a despised woman in Samaria (John 4). He saw the hated Zacchaeus hiding in a tree. (He was hated as a tax collector who ripped off his own people to finance a foreign army's occupation.) To his credit, Zacchaeus sought the best possible place to encounter Jesus. "Seeking" goes both ways. His conversion story ends with Jesus' point: "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Jesus redeemed wasted lives. He saw the untapped potential beneath the surface. He spent three years constantly correcting the misconceptions of His disciples. Salvation is holistic. It is more than an isolated, stand-alone event. Zacchaeus was forgiven, welcomed and loved, but he could no longer live in the same old way. A relationship with Jesus moves us from taking to giving. Asbury helps us love like Jesus. Helping Others
Follow Jesus means we will be present in the moment and be mindful in service, generosity and care.

**APPLICATION:** Our membership vows ask, "Will you be loyal to Jesus Christ expressed through Asbury...and will you uphold it by your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness?" We express loyalty to Him through faithful habits. How has following Jesus resulted in being attentive to others? How are you serving, giving and caring?

### MINDFUL

## Tuesday, April 23, 2019 Matthew 25:14-30

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


# Wednesday, April 24, 2019 John 4:1-30

•	What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
•	How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon? Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you are thankful.
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#### MINDFUL

## Thursday, April 25, 2019 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


# Friday, April 26, 2019 Hebrews 2:1-9

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

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### MINDFUL

## Saturday, April 27, 2019 1 Peter 3:8-12

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


# Sunday, April 28, 2019 Luke 19:1-10

Sermon Notes:			

#### **BOLD**

## Monday, April 29, 2019 Matthew 21:12-17

Jesus said bold things. He always cared but never compromised His message. The Apostles followed His lead. It's interesting how Paul wrestled with this matter with the Corinthian church (see 2 Corinthians 10:1). Our boldness is rooted in our confidence in the grace and love of Jesus. We are "in Christ." Since we are loved by such a great love, we confidently share the good news of grace and truth.

"A Failure of Nerve" is a challenging book to read but it has helped me enormously. Rabbi Ed Friedman described how leaders can

lose their confidence (nerve) by not being "self-differentiated." Our identity can be hijacked by others. All are susceptible but especially leaders. Sabotage and triangulation dogs those at the top. Business, education, politics and ministry, etc. leaders can lose their identity. Chronic anxiety and fear follow. Self-differentiation means choosing responsibility over empathy while retaining emotional warmth for others. Friedman felt the best self-differentiation anyone can attain is 70 percent. Jesus was the most self-differentiated man who ever lived He always kept a strong sense of self. He always spoke with both grace and truth.

**APPLICATION:** Have you ever lost your nerve? What was the result? Are you a calm or anxious person? How can you be "self-differentiated" and still have warmth for others?

## Tuesday, April 30, 2019 Acts 4:13-31

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

are thankful.		

#### **BOLD**

# Wednesday, May 1, 2019 Ephesians 3:7-13

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

# Thursday, May 2, 2019 2 Corinthians 3:12-18

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading

today's text?

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you are thankful.

### **BOLD**

# Friday, May 3, 2019 Philippians 1:12-18

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

are thankful.	

## Saturday, May 4, 2019 Philemon 8-16

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

  Write down (at least) one person /thing/situation.

are tha	nkful.			

## BOLD

# Sunday, May 5, 2019 Matthew 21:12-17

Sermon Notes:		

### Monday, May 6, 2019 John 1:14-18

I was shocked to discover John is the only Gospel to use the word "grace" (all four times in John 1:14-17). John says Jesus is "full of grace and truth." "Mercy" was a much more common term in Matthew, Mark and Luke (but not found in John). Grace never says the Old Testament Law is bad, nor does it tell us anything goes. God's grace is always linked with truth. The forgiveness of Jesus in John 8 was not permission to return to the old way. Grace is given to transform.

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how Jesus' follow righteously acco even his name ch being God's ener 2:8-9). The inten Spirit. God's grad 12:9-10). The las	vers were grace-fording to the Law. nanged (to "Paul" mies, we were savet is for us to exhibite is all we need to the tree in the Bibite all. Amen." God lo	full. Saul was a He was so trar meaning "smal yed by grace the bit God's grace o make us strowle ends with, "I	of Acts. Acts showman who lived asformed by grace I" or "humble.") Afrough faith (Ephesthrough the Holying (2 Corinthians The grace of the Lornough I am a sinner	that ter sians

**APPLICATION:** Have you received God's grace? How does God's grace affect the way you live? In Matthew 18:21-35, Jesus stresses the importance of extending grace. Are you grace-full toward others or are you excluding others from God's grace? Why is this question so important?

#### **GRACE-FULL**

### Tuesday, May 7, 2019 Matthew 18:21-35

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


### Wednesday, May 8, 2019 John 8:1-11

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?
Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you


#### **GRACE-FULL**

## Thursday, May 9, 2019 Ephesians 2:1-10

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


### Friday, May 10, 2019 2 Corinthians 12:1-10

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

ar	e thankful.		n/tning/s		

#### **GRACE-FULL**

### Saturday, May 11, 2019 Revelations 22:6-21

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


# Sunday, May 12, 2019 John 1:14-18

ermon Notes:						

### Monday, May 13, 2019 Luke 15:1-10

Some are not approachable. Wearing a "NO!" face, they barricade and wall off others. Why? Isolation may occur because of insecurity. Insecurity is rooted in fear, mistrust and hurt. Hurt people may avoid commitments and risks. Sometimes wounded people are opposite - SO approachable they allow others to take advantage. There is a time to say "NO!" and a time to say, "YES!" Jesus established clear boundaries.

Some are unapproachable because they hold others in contempt. John Gottman (famous author and counselor) says contempt kills a marriage. Many of the Pharisees held Jesus in contempt. Yet, He offered grace (even to Nicodemus who came to see Him at night).

His character attracts. Jesus could be tough but also tender. Jesus is "The Lamb of God." Lambs are approachable. Matthew 9 shows many types of people approaching Him. Children, women, Gentiles, the diseased, social outcasts and misfits all came to Him.

Discipleship is becoming like Jesus, He invites us to come to Him so He

an transforn	n us, too.			

**APPLICATION:** Is Jesus approachable for you? Are you approachable to others? Do you have good boundaries? Do you hold anyone in contempt? Why? How can you get past this impasse?

### Tuesday, May 14, 2019 Matthew 9

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading

today's text?

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you are thankful.

## Wednesday, May 15, 2019 Mark 14:1-9

 What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

are thankful.

## Thursday, May 16, 2019 Luke 13:10-17

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

ar	e thankful.		n/tning/s		

### Friday, May 17, 2019 John 3:1-21

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?
  Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you


### Saturday, May 18, 2019 Hebrews 4:14-16

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
  How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?
- Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you are thankful.

# Sunday, May 19, 2019 Luke 15:1-10

Germon Notes:						

### Monday, May 20, 2019 John 15:12-17

Our culture often thinks of love in sexual terms ("eros" in the Greek language). Eros is a gift of God when used in its proper place (one man and one woman married to each other). The Greek language has a second word for the love of family ("storge") and a third word for love for friends ("philia.") However, Jesus' love for His disciples is "agape." Agape is the love of God. It is unconditional. Jesus described His love as agape. He did more than talk about it – He showed it when He died on the cross for us while we were yet sinners. Agape gives regardless of response (e.g., the two thieves on the cross). We give because Jesus is alive in our hearts. We are not forced into it. Agape is the work of His Spirit in us. Love gives, serves and sacrifices.

Generosity is learned Someone must teach us how to give Generosity

takes many forms. We remember and honor those who have shown the way on Memorial Day weekend. We follow in their steps to be segiving and generous, too.	us

**APPLICATION:** Who is the most generous person you have ever known? How did he or she express generosity? How have you imitated that generous spirit? Who is the most ungenerous person you have ever known? Who do you want to be like? How are you growing in giving yourself to the Lord and to others?

#### **SELF-GIVING**

## Tuesday, May 21, 2019 Romans 12:9-21

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

## Wednesday, May 22, 2019 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

- What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?
- How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

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are tl	hankful.			

#### **SELF-GIVING**

## Thursday, May 23, 2019 1 Peter 4:7-11

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


### Friday, May 24, 2019 1 John 3:11-24

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

today s text?How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?

are thankful.		

#### **SELF-GIVING**

### Saturday, May 25, 2019 1 John 4:13-21

What are your thoughts, feelings and application from reading today's text?

Write down (at least) one person/thing/situation for which you

How does it tie in with the upcoming sermon?


# Sunday, May 26, 2019 John 15:12-17

Sermon Notes:	