

Worship Engagement and Devotion for week of August 22, 2021

READ Luke 9:1-6, Acts 8:26-40

Reclaiming Good News Series Week 7: Good News – Curing Diseases



What is good news? How do we know when something is good news? Can old news still be good news? In our new series, Reclaiming Good News, we will search the pages of Scripture together to gain insight and understanding about the meaning of a phrase we use a lot! Let's explore good news in a fresh way!

Questions for Reflection:

- What are the disciples told to do in the Luke passage? How do you respond to this call today?
- How might we focus more on the diseases that might seem to be more in our reach? Diseases we see and encounter every day. Diseases such as: Sexism, Racism, Injustice, Hopelessness, Ageism, Xenophobia, Homophobia, oppression, fear, misinformation?
- What will it mean for you to be baptized or remember your baptism and accept the commission to go and proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God?
- How can you grow in faith so you will be prepared to share the Good News with others?

Spiritual Practice: Intercessory Prayer

Intercessory Prayer is praying to God on behalf of others. In his book, *Prayer*, Richard Foster describes Intercession as a way of loving others. Intercessory prayer helps us to think about others through the lens of God's desire to transform them into Christlikeness. Adele Ahlberg Calhoun writes in her book, *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook*, "Intercessory Prayer invites us into God's care and concern for us, our families and friends, and the entire world." Intercession is not a means to impose our will and desires for a person, but rather a way to become more aware of God's desires. Intercessory Prayer is a way of partnering with God in his concerns for the world, as we support others in need of healing, care, and support.

We always thank
GOD for all of you
and continually
mention you in
our prayers.

1 Thessalonians 5:2, NIV

Read John 17 and Exodus 17:8-13 for Biblical examples of Intercessory Prayer.



Try this Back to School Blessing Activity! – Send a card of encouragement to teachers, administrators, and students you know who will begin a new school year this fall. Let them know you are thinking of them, supporting them and praying for them. Write an intercessory prayer you can pray for our schools throughout the year.

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