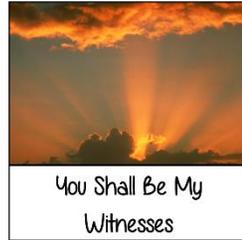


God's Story Our Story



April 3, 2016

Devotion: Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions. You can do this alone, as a couple, as a family; in the morning, during the day, or at night. Find a routine that works best for you.

Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of promise and hope, you have charged us with the task of witnessing to your word. Teach us to love and to share what you have given us with the world. Amen.

Reflect: Reflect on the key verse from Sunday's reading.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

Study: Study the reading and consider the background.

Jesus left his followers with the promise of the Holy Spirit, which would be God's presence with them at all times and in all places. Jesus also left them (and us) with hope that one day Jesus would return, and this world would be restored to the world God intended. In the meantime, we have been given the charge to create God's intended world with our thoughts, words, and actions

Read: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text. After the reading, ask the follow-up questions.

Sunday, Acts 1:1-14, *You Shall Be My Witnesses*

Monday, Acts 1:15-26, *Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas*

Tuesday, Acts 2:1-13, *The Coming of the Holy Spirit*

Wednesday, Acts 2:14-36, *Peter Addresses the Crowd*

Thursday, Acts 2:37-42, *The First Converts*

Friday, Acts 2:43-47, *Life among the Believers*

Saturday, Acts 3:11-26, *Peter Speaks in Solomon's Portico*

What themes do you see in the speeches given by these early believers?

Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household. Discuss the following questions, or simply check in with "Highs" and "Lows."

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

How can your witness be helpful to those who do not know Christ? What would you say to someone who asks you about Jesus?

What do you hope for? What keeps you hoping?

Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Write a speech you might give to a group of people who do not know Christ. Tell how Jesus has affected your life personally. Post your speech to your blog or social media.

Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God fill you with the hope and anticipation of the Holy Spirit. Amen.