

20 November 2022

Bible Reading(s) for the week

Feel free to focus on as much or as little makes sense for your practice and discussion.

Psalm 48

Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise,
in the city of our God, his holy mountain.

2 Beautiful in its loftiness,
the joy of the whole earth,
like the heights of Zaphon is Mount Zion,
the city of the Great King.

3 God is in her citadels;
he has shown himself to be her fortress.

4 When the kings joined forces,
when they advanced together,

5 they saw her and were astounded;
they fled in terror.

6 Trembling seized them there,
pain like that of a woman in labor.

7 You destroyed them like ships of Tarshish
shattered by an east wind.

8 As we have heard,
so we have seen
in the city of the Lord Almighty,
in the city of our God:

God makes her secure
forever.

9 Within your temple, O God,
we meditate on your unfailing love.

10 Like your name, O God,
your praise reaches to the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with righteousness.

11 Mount Zion rejoices,
the villages of Judah are glad
because of your judgments.

12 Walk about Zion, go around her,
count her towers,

13 consider well her ramparts,
view her citadels,

that you may tell of them
to the next generation.

14 For this God is our God for ever and ever;
he will be our guide even to the end.

Prayer for Enlightenment (Based on Ephesians 1:17-23)

God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may you give us the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that we may know you better. We pray that the eyes of our hearts may be enlightened in order that we may know the hope to which you have called us, the riches of your glorious inheritance, and your great power for us who believe. Lord, you rule far above all authority, power and dominion, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. We pray that you continue to lead us as your church as we study your word, and grow in community with you and one another. Amen.

Lectio Divina (steps to be practiced by Small Group each week)

[History and background of the Lectio Divina](#)

Lectio Reading (Small Group reads the Scripture together)

Meditatio Meditation (Individual time to meditate on the word, may read through again on their own)

Lectio Read through the scripture again.

Oratio Prayer (Individual prayer over the Scripture reading)

Lectio Read through the scripture again.

Contemplatio Communal Contemplation (The group shares their observations, connections, and interpretations of the text as well as their thoughts on the sermon, the reading, and their personal interpretations based on the previous steps.)

Actio The Call to Action (The group applies the scripture to themselves, the church, and the greater community– world).What does this reading mean for me?

1. What does this reading mean for our Church?
2. What does this reading mean for our greater community?

Small Group Communal Prayer