

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS - Week of February 23, 2025**  
**"Go and Tell"**

**COMMAND OF JESUS**

**Sunday ..... Read Acts 1:1-8**

*"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."* After His resurrection, Jesus spent forty days on earth before returning to heaven. During that forty days, He gave very important instructions to His followers. Because they are in God's Holy Scriptures, they are God-given instructions to us. This teaching of Jesus, our Lord is fundamental in our responsibility as part of God's family on earth. We are to be His witnesses, by word and deed! Each of us lives as part of God's earth, so to be a witness in our home country is essential in keeping that vital command of our Savior. God does call some of His family to travel to distant places to be His witnesses as what we call foreign missionaries. That is particularly true where people have not been reached with the gospel of Christ. Praise God for those who have been called in such a ministry, and they deserve our unending support, both in finances and in our prayer. God wants His people to reach the whole world.

**FAMILY**

**Monday ..... Read John 1:40-41**

*"One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ."* One of those with whom John shared that he had met Jesus was Andrew, the brother of Peter. He told Peter that they had found the Messiah, of which was spoken throughout the Old Testament. Obviously, that caught Peter's attention. That introduction touched off a string of witnesses that resulted in the conversion of those men who would become the disciples of Jesus. God's new covenant had its beginning, and the Church Age was about to begin. Jesus made that clear in His assignment to Peter in Matthew 16:18 *"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."* Praise God for local church families! True believers actually have three families while living on earth: their earthly family by birth, their heavenly family by virtue of their profession of faith in Christ as Savior, and their church family to the local church to which God directed them to join with other believers.

**SIBLINGS**

**Tuesday ..... Read Matthew 18:15-18**

*"Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother."* A key teaching that is important for all Christians are the lessons on family relationships. This is vital because the family is God's basic unit for all people on earth. It is how God chose to populate His earth. Obviously, the devil would then make the family his primary target. In today's Bible reading, Jesus gave an important lesson on family relationships. If offended by a sibling, we are told to go immediately and air it out. In so doing, the problem is healed and God is glorified! That teaching applies to both our earthly family into which we are born, and , equally important to our church family, our brothers and sisters in the family of God. Jesus

emphasized that point when He taught the disciples to begin their prayers by addressing God as their "Father who art in heaven. That means fellow believers are our brothers and sisters in the family of God!

### **FRIENDS**

**Wednesday ..... Read Matthew 22:36-40**

*"And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."* The responsibility of Christians, the children in God's family by faith in Christ, is to show and to share the love of God. Not only will that result in establishing many meaningful friendships, it will sustain them. That begins with showing love to our neighbors, the ones who live, or work, next to us. Our friendliness will honor our Lord, and it will be noticeable to our friends. When that rich man asked Jesus about eternal life, the response of Jesus was that he should show love to his neighbors, even to the point of meeting their financial needs in that he was apparently a man of great material wealth. As it turned out, his preference was to hang on to his material wealth, probably to the detriment of his eternity. Showing love is vital in being a witness for our Lord. Actions do indeed speak louder than words. Showing love is important in sharing God's truth.

### **FELLOWSHIP**

**Thursday ..... Read Hebrews 10:23-25**

*"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."* There are Christians who have said that they can worship God in the privacy of their homes. That is true and necessary, but it is never enough. Today's Bible reading points that out. Never should a believer be isolated. When a person accepts Jesus as Savior, they become part of God's family as mentioned in John 1:12: *"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his nam."* That is an important identification and brings an important responsibility. A family should work together in unity and harmony. That means our earthly family and our church family. Spiritually speaking, they are our brothers and sisters and we are to enjoy the company of each other!

### **FELLOW WORKERS**

**Friday ..... Read Isaiah 30:18-21**

*"And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see thy teachers."* Our workplace is our mission field. This is one of the places that God has placed us to be the *"light of the world."* To be an effective witness, Believers must be hard workers, doing all that is expected of them, and maybe more. There will be trying times. The verse in today's Bible reading has personal meaning in terms of my employment. At the time I was teaching in public schools, it was not a high paying career. Fortunately, today that has changed, but years ago it was one of the lowest paying careers for a college graduate. God, however was true to His Word and made provision for all our needs. Although tempted to seek a higher paying job. God's instruction was as mentioned in Isaiah 30:20: stay in teaching. I did so until God called me into serving Him as a pastor in the local church. God does meet all our needs!

## KINDNESS

**Saturday..... Read Ephesians 4:30-32**

*"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."* Life, more than anything else on the human level, is made up of relationships: family, friends, fellow workers, and strangers. Our quality of life depends on the quality of those relationships. One of the key factors in having strong relationships is to show kindness. This indicates that you place others' interests and needs above those of your own. That is not to say our personal needs are not important, they are vital. But when it comes down to choices between others and yourself, the happy person will place the needs of others as a priority. That means the show of kindness. That kindness is really tested when someone does you wrong. The natural instinct is to get revenge. The Christ-honoring reaction is to show forgiveness!