

Devotional Diary 17 - 23 February 2014

A resource for the Daily Rhythm of Worship, using the Lectionary Readings)

[Rhythm of Worship](#)

See ["Weekly Rhythm"](#) for comment and questions to engage with the readings.

Also ["Praying the Lectionary Readings"](#) for prayers based on the readings.

Readings for the week preparing for Sunday February 23, 2014, the Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany:

[Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18](#). Social holiness defined: loving your neighbor, whatever their condition, as you love yourself.

[Psalm 119:33-40](#).

[1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23](#). Paul reminds the Christians in Corinth they are the temple of God. They are to honour their bodies as God has made them and be grateful for all leaders who lay or build on the foundation of Christ.

[Matthew 5:38-48](#) "You have heard it said... but I tell you..." Part 2! The nearing of the kingdom of God means we are to (and now can!) treat those who harm us, (oppressors and enemies,) very differently than we may have been trained.

This week's suggestion: Don't be too quick to move off the adoration focus. Read the verse and spend a couple of minutes meditating on it before moving into confession.

Monday:

Adoration Focus: Yet you are near, O Lord, and all your commands are true. (Psalm 119:151)

Confession: Lord we are small you are big. Forgive our pride.

The Word: See readings above or use your own reading plan.

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: God calls and we offer ourselves in response, discovering who we are. This week pray focussed prayers for the world as you encounter it. What circles do you engage with? As you pray for these areas each day, begin to think of 'call': What service may God be calling you to? Or how may God be guiding you in terms of the service that you are already involved in?

Personal prayers: (Use this section to list people you need to pray for or situations of personal concern that you need to bring before God in prayer)

Dedication: Lord we are small you are big. Give us love, strength, guidance and power to go where you send.

Tuesday:

Adoration Focus: The Lord is God and he has made his light shine upon us. (Psalm 118:27)

Confession: Lord we are small you are big. Forgive our self-sufficiency.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: See Monday's focus.

Personal Prayers:

Dedication: Lord we are small you are big. Give us love, strength, guidance and power to go where you send.

Wednesday:

Adoration Focus: For great is His love towards us... (Psalm 117:2)

Confession: Lord we are small you are big. Forgive our short-sightedness and distorted vision.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus:

Personal prayers: See Monday's focus.

Dedication: Lord we are small you are big. Give us love, strength, guidance and power to go where you send.

Thursday:

Adoration Focus: The Lord protects the simple hearted... (Psalm 116:6)

Confession: Lord we are small you are big. Forgive our inability to realise the gift of your Spirit.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus:

Personal prayers: See Monday's focus.

Dedication: Lord we are small you are big. Give us love, strength, guidance and power to go where you send.

Friday:

Adoration Focus: Not to us, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness. (Psalm 115:1)

Confession: Lord we are small you are big. Forgive our tendency to hold all the praise for ourselves.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: See Monday's focus.

Personal prayers:

Dedication: Lord we are small you are big. Give us love, strength, guidance and power to go where you send.

Saturday:

Adoration Focus: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord... (Psalm 114:7)

Confession: Lord we are small you are big. Forgive our parochial care that limits the spread of your kingdom.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: See Monday's focus.

Personal prayers:

Dedication: Lord we are small you are big. Give us love, strength, guidance and power to go where you send.

Sunday:

Adoration Focus: From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised. (Psalm 113:3)

Confession: Lord we are small you are big. Forgive us when we worship a "small" God.

The Word:

Seeking the Kingdom:

Shared Focus: See Monday's focus.

Personal prayers:

Dedication: Lord we are small you are big. Give us love, strength, guidance and power to go where you send.