

Grace Guide



JANUARY 20-26

MONDAY
1/20

ISAIAH 55:1-13

This is a passage we come back to again and again. God's ways and thoughts surpass human understanding. His plans challenge our assumptions about fairness, justice, and success. Just as rain and snow nourish the earth to bring life, God's word accomplishes its purpose, even if it unfolds in ways we don't expect. Trusting in His higher ways invites us to relinquish our limited perspectives and embrace His transformative plans. This challenges us to approach life with humility and faith, trusting His wisdom above our preconceptions.

1. How do you remain humble in recognizing the limitations of your own thoughts and plans?
2. What recent experience has shown you that God's purposes are greater than what you initially imagined?

TUESDAY
1/21

JOHN 3:1-21

Nicodemus came to Jesus with questions, but he struggled to understand the concept of being “born again.” Jesus introduced him to a spiritual rebirth that goes beyond human reasoning. The work of the Holy Spirit is like the wind—mysterious, uncontrollable, and transformative. This challenges us to move beyond a purely intellectual faith and embrace the Spirit’s transformative power, which renews our hearts and aligns our lives with God’s purposes.

1. What does being “born again” mean to you, and how has it transformed your life?
2. In what ways do you see evidence of the Holy Spirit’s transformative power in your daily walk?

WEDNESDAY
1/22

HEBREWS 12:1-3

The Christian life is compared to a race requiring perseverance and focus. To run well, we must cast off anything that hinders us, including preconceived notions about how the journey should look. Fixing our eyes on Jesus, who endured the cross for the joy set before Him, gives us strength to overcome our struggles. His example challenges us to reframe hardship, viewing it as part of God’s purpose for our growth and faith.

1. What “weights” or distractions might be holding you back from running the race God has set for you?
2. How does fixing your eyes on Jesus help you persevere through challenges?

THURSDAY

1/23

1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25

The cross of Christ confounds worldly wisdom. To many, it appears weak and foolish, but it reveals God's power and wisdom to those who believe. The idea that salvation comes through the sacrificial death of Jesus challenges our preconceptions about strength, success, and power. God's ways overturn human pride, inviting us to trust in His wisdom rather than our own. This calls us to humility and dependence on the transforming power of the gospel.

1. How does the message of the cross challenge the world's understanding of power and success?
2. In what ways have you experienced the power of the cross in your life?

FRIDAY

1/24

PSALM 8

The psalmist marvels at God's attention to humanity. Despite our smallness compared to the vastness of creation, God honors us with purpose and responsibility. This challenges the notion that humans are insignificant or unworthy. Instead, it invites us to live in the tension of humility and honor, recognizing both our dependence on God and the incredible calling He has given us as stewards of His creation.

1. How does being a steward of creation shape the way you live your daily life?
2. What practical steps can you take to reflect God's glory in your relationships and responsibilities??

SATURDAY/
SUNDAY
1/25-26

LUKE 4:21-30

When Jesus declared Himself the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, the crowd's initial amazement quickly turned to outrage. They struggled to reconcile their familiarity with Jesus as Joseph's son with His claim to be the Messiah. This challenges our tendency to limit God's work to our expectations and preconceived notions. Jesus calls us to confront the biases and assumptions that keep us from fully embracing His mission and His authority in our lives.

1. Is it possible to be so familiar with Jesus' teachings that a person might miss the point of them? How?
2. What biases or assumptions might be hindering your faith or your ability to share the gospel with others?

Verse for the week:

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us..."

(Hebrews 12:1)

SERMON NOTES
