



# Sermon Notes and Weekly Devotional Guide

July 13-18 2020

## Monday, July 13 Read Psalm 119:105-112

Read this psalm through a few times as a personal prayer. In what ways does it accurately reflect your own faith journey? Where and in what ways is your experience unlike the psalmist's? Why?

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What, specifically, are your "oaths," "offerings," and "joys" towards God?

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## Tuesday July 14 Read Isaiah 55:6-13

Following God will not always make sense by human perceptions (see vv.8-9) nor necessarily be easy but God's plans and goals are all that will remain and the only way to lasting peace and contentment. How often do we understand this reality backwards- striving for our own purposes and earnestly praying that God will step in and make them happen? What are some ways, in your life today, that you "seek the Lord?" \_\_\_\_\_

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## Wednesday, July 15 Read Romans 8:1-11

Paul draws a clear distinction here between being focused on "the flesh," i.e. our own human ability to handle our lives, and "the Spirit," or allowing God to give direction and priority in our lives. Through Christ we are free of our sins but we often put ourselves back in bondage by trying to incorporate the "ways of the flesh" into our daily

**Sermon notes for**  
***"When the GPS Goes Down"***  
**July 12, 2020**  
**Scripture: Romans 8:3-11 (The Message)**

1. Trying to manage life our way is a form of slavery.
2. Christ calls us- through prayer, service and sacrifice- to make room for God in the running of our lives.

lives! What are the earthly things that bind you? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you offer them in sacrifice to the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday, July 16 Read Matthew 13:1-9;18-23**

While the parable is about how the Word is received and the different types of folks receiving it, it's also about the things (thorns, hard soil, birds, etc.) that destroy or snuff out the abundant life that Word promises. Truthfully there's a little bit of all of us in the different ground. Do a thought exercise and reflect on when you relate to each type of ground and the form those particular hazards take in your life. How can you respond to each so as to be 'better' soil? Discuss this with God in prayer. \_\_\_\_\_

**Friday, July 17 Read Matthew 6:24-34**

Worry often stems from a feeling that we are inadequate to the circumstances around us and not in control. How does this passage address such concerns? \_\_\_\_\_

How is trying to manage every detail in our lives synonymous with serving a false master? Why? \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, July 18 Read Psalm 65:1-13**

The psalms often serve to remind us of both God's power over all things as well as God's faithful nurturing nature. More importantly we are reminded that God is active constantly and in the most basic of activities. How might that knowledge affect our own daily activities, goals and priorities? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the danger of assuming God is distant and involved only occasionally? \_\_\_\_\_