

Spend time this week in prayer for all those impacted by the fires in the Los Angeles area. Glide residents know from personal experience how devastating these fires are.

Monday: Reading - 1 Peter chapters 2:4-8

Prayer Focus – Spend today in personal prayer. What are you in need of? What is weighing on your heart? Health concerns? Financial issues? Dealing with sin? Are there family members and friends who are lost? Pray for them by name and ask the Lord to give you more opportunities to act in love and speak with grace to them. Lay everything you are dealing with before the Lord. Put 1 Peter 5:7 into purposeful practice.

Tuesday: Reading – 1 Peter chapters 1-2

Consider this – 1 Peter 2:4-5; Romans 12; Hebrews 13:15-16.

How do we know that the "living stone" in verse 4 is referring to Jesus? What does it mean that He is a "living" stone? According to the NKJV study Bible, Peter is making a case to show that Jesus is superior to

-The Old Testament temple-

-The idols of the Gentiles-

-The traditions received by the (Jewish) fathers-

How is Jesus superior to these things?

God is building "a great spiritual building" (NKJV) and using Jesus as the cornerstone. Not many of us are stonemasons these days, so explain as best you can what a cornerstone is and why a "living" cornerstone is superior. Do you feel that you are part of God's great building project? Or does it seem like life is passing you by? Open your heart to the Lord in prayer, and seek opportunities in the church and in the community to be part of this great project of God.

Prayer Focus- Keep it local. Spend today in local prayer. Remember the prayer requests and needs from Sunday (refer to your prayer list if you keep one on Sundays). Lift up the fellowship at NUBF. Pray for your pastors and elders. Pray for the workers at the church and the ministries. Pray for financial blessing so that the reach of the church can increase. Remind the Lord about what you prayed for yesterday.

Wednesday: Reading – 1 Peter chapters 1-2

Consider this –1 Peter 2:6; Isaiah 28; Romans 9:30-33; 10:11.

What verse does Peter quote in verse 6? Read the section that Peter quotes and the other verses listed. Why do you think this idea is being repeated so many times? What is the most important thing that the Bible is trying to show us in these verses?

Prayer Focus- Pray for our nation. Pray for our leaders. Pray for the victims and survivors of the fires, floods, hurricanes, and other disasters. Pray that in each community the churches can come together to show the grace and love of God through helping the recovery. Remember to pray for your personal needs, and the local needs.

Thursday: Reading – 1 Peter chapters 1-2

Consider this - 1 Peter 2:7-8; Isaiah 8; 1 Corinthians 1

Who are the builders? Why would builders reject a stone? What were these builders looking for in a Messiah, and how did this end up with them rejecting the Christ? Based on the rejection, how has the stone turned into a stumbling block and an offense?

Prayer Focus – Spend today in prayer for the world. Pray for those in war zones like Ukraine and Russia, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan, and any other place you know of. Pray for our missionary partners.

Pray for those in disaster areas. Pray for a united, active, and gospel preaching church all around the world. Remember to pray for your personal needs, the local needs, and our country.

Friday: Reading - 1 Peter chapters 1-2

Consider this – 1 Peter 2:8

The NKJV study Bible says, "Unbelievers, because they do not follow God's Word, find Jesus to be repugnant, an obstacle in their way and a cause for disapproval and anger." Before you came to faith, is this how you saw the gospel message? Do you find now that people still have this attitude?

Now that you are a believer, how do you see yourself? How does God see you? Go through verses 4-10 and write down all of the different descriptive words and phrases that Peter uses to describe Christians. Which ones resonate with you the most? Why these?

Prayer Focus – Spend today praying for the soon return of Christ. Pray that while Christ's coming is still in the future, God will use you to expand His kingdom. Lift up all of the needs from the week and pray for wisdom and readiness.

Saturday: Reading – 1 Peter chapters 1-2; Exodus 19:5-6; Deuteronomy 7:6; Hosea 2:23.

Consider this – 1 Peter 2: 9-10

How does Peter describe the Church in these verses? Why do you think he's talking collectively and not so much individually now? Peter uses the words "generation, priesthood, nation, people. Read the verses listed above and explain how God's mission is the same now as it was then.

Prayer Focus – Spend today praying for the Pastors of NUBF and the people who are making things happen on Sunday. Include the teachers, the behind-the-scenes workers, the worship team, the regular attendees, and that there will be new people who come to the service and maybe meet Jesus for the first time.

Sunday: Go to church with the anticipation of hearing from the Lord