

JULY 2020

About a month after celebrating the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and its first fruits, here we are luxuriating in the lush valley of Romans 8 as we meditate on Parables of the Kingdom (Mat 13). “The Spirit itself testifies that we are God’s children! [...] heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ [...] sharing in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory” (v 17). And yet, we look around and see the whole order of Creation “subjected to frustration,” groaning, “waiting in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed” (19-20). God’s hope is that the community of “creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God” (21). Facing our work as heirs is daunting, but we know: the Spirit itself helps in our weakness pray, INTERCEDING FOR US when we run out of words (26-27), we are more than conquerors through His love despite the many hardships and persecutions we face (31-37), because nothing — absolutely nothing — can separate us from the Love of God in Christ Jesus (38-39)! Can you Raise a Hallelujah with me? Can we joyfully embrace not only our status but also our mission as co-heirs with Christ?

PRAYER FOR JULY:

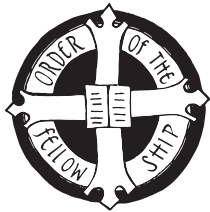
Hail Jesus, you’re my King! Your life frees me to sing. Strengthen my soul to work with you as your kingdom penetrates every part of my being. Work a transformation in me and my community as jaw-dropping as a tiny seed turned tree and fruitful as a hundred-fold harvest.

PRAYER PRACTICE:

Spend a minute (or more) each day at the beginning of your prayer time imagining with God his Kingdom like a mustard seed growing to a tree in your life and community...or like yeast working itself through all of your life and relationships.

FEASTING PRACTICE:

There is continuous debate about what region has the best BBQ (It’s Kansas City). But there is little debate about the beauty of a cook-out, bringing people together for a meal. In all the freedom and glory of Children of God, make an appointment each week for a meal with someone outside your normal circles. Perhaps someone from another: ethnic group, nationality, generation, faith or political perspective. Find a way to feast not only on a good meal, but on the common ground God has given you.



JULY 2020

WEEK 1

JUL 1-4

WEDNESDAY

- Ps. 119:161-168
- Jeremiah 18:1-11
- Mt. 11:20-24

THURSDAY

- Ps. 145:8-14
- Zechariah 1:1-6
- Romans 7:1-6

FRIDAY

- Ps. 145:8-14
- Zechariah 2:6-13
- Romans 7:7-20

SATURDAY

- Ps. 145:8-14
- Zechariah 4:1-7
- Luke 10:21-24

WEEK 2

JUL 5-11

SUNDAY

- Gen. 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
- Ps. 45:10-17
- Romans 7:15-25a
- Mt. 11:16-19, 25-30

MONDAY

- Ps. 131
- Jeremiah 27:1-11, 16-22
- Romans 1:18-25

TUESDAY

- Ps. 131
- Jeremiah 28:10-17
- Romans 3:1-8

WEDNESDAY

- Ps. 131
- Jeremiah 13:1-11
- John 13:1-17

THURSDAY

- Ps. 65:9-13
- Isaiah 48:1-5
- Romans 2:12-16

FRIDAY

- Ps. 65:9-13
- Isaiah 48:6-11
- Romans 15:14-21

SATURDAY

- Ps. 65:9-13
- Isaiah 52:1-6
- John 12:44-50

WEEK 3

JUL 12-18

SUNDAY

- Gen. 25:19-34
- Ps. 119:105-112
- Romans 8:1-11
- Mt. 13:1-9, 18-23

MONDAY

- Ps. 92
- Leviticus 26:3-20
- 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

TUESDAY

- Ps. 92
- Deuteronomy 28:1-14
- Ephesians 4:17-5:2

WEDNESDAY

- Ps. 92
- Proverbs 11:23-30
- Mt. 13:10-17

THURSDAY

- Ps. 86:11-17
- Isaiah 41:21-29
- Hebrews 2:1-9

FRIDAY

- Ps. 86:11-17
- Isaiah 44:9-17
- Hebrews 6:13-20

SATURDAY

- Ps. 86:11-17
- Isaiah 44:18-20
- Mt. 7:15-20

WEEK 4

JUL 19-25

SUNDAY

- Gen. 28:10-19a
- Ps. 139:1-12, 23-24
- Romans 8:12-25
- Mt. 13:24-30, 36-43

MONDAY

- Ps. 75
- Nahum 1:1-13
- Revelation 14:12-20

TUESDAY

- Ps. 75
- Zephaniah 3:1-13
- Galatians 4:21-5:1

WEDNESDAY

- Ps. 75
- Daniel 12:1-13
- Mt. 12:15-21

THURSDAY

- Ps. 119:129-136
- 1 Kings 1:28-37
- 1 Corinthians 4:14-20

FRIDAY

- Ps. 119:129-136
- 1 Kings 1:38-48
- Acts 7:44-53

SATURDAY

- Ps. 119:129-136
- 1 Kings 2:1-4
- Mt. 12:38-42

WEEK 5

JUL 26-31

SUNDAY

- Gen. 29:15-28
- Ps. 105:1-11, 45b
- Romans 8:26-39
- Mt. 13:31-33, 44-52

MONDAY

- Ps. 119:121-128
- 1 Kings 3:16-28
- James 3:13-18

TUESDAY

- Ps. 119:121-128
- 1 Kings 4:29-34
- Ephesians 6:10-18

WEDNESDAY

- Ps. 119:121-128
- Proverbs 1:1-7, 20-33
- Mark 4:30-34

THURSDAY

- Ps. 145:8-9, 14-21
- Proverbs 10:1-5
- Philippians 4:10-15

FRIDAY

- Ps. 145:8-9, 14-21
- Isaiah 51:17-23
- Romans 9:6-13