

JUNE 2023

In Ethiopia, this is a season of change. The rains are starting. Sandals get put away and boots come out, hot and sunny days become cold and cloudy, and instead of carrying sunblock with us all the time, now it's our raincoats.

Many Christians in Ethiopia use the rainy season to reflect on their faith. Sometimes the rains are so hard they cause floods and destruction. Farmers say this is a season of hard work and suffering - cold weather, plowing, mud, and long hours of toil. It's the necessary struggle that precedes the harvest. It reminds us that forces of destruction can also clear space for new life and growth. And this season helps us recognize that the yield comes through our partnership with God - we do what is ours to do and have faith that God is doing His part too.

If this is a season of struggle for you, may you be strengthened by the words of Psalm 126, "Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them."

PRAYER FOR JUNE:

I am shaped and formed
by the work I do
and, at times,
I am mis-shapen
and malformed by it as well

Which is to say that
"spiritual formation" is not
some kind of peripheral, optimal
religious training course
I take to get me in shape for work.

Instead, spiritual formation
is a way to name
what is happening to me,
with or without my permission,
all the time, even and especially
as I work.

May it be so, then
that I wake up
to the ways my soul is affected,
made alive or crushed
as I do the work I get to do.

And may it be so that
when I am done
with my time in this body,
and with the work I'm given to do,
not only will the world I served
and cared for
be more beautiful,
but so will I.

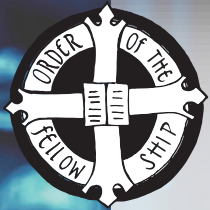
— *Justin McRoberts*

PRAYER PRACTICE:

When it starts to rain, pray for abundant fruit in the ministry you serve. (If there is no rain, choose some other weather condition to remind you to pray)

FASTING PRACTICE:

Following the practice of many Christians today and throughout history, consider fasting from food from sunup to sundown on Wednesday and Friday. Perhaps fast on just one Wednesday or try fasting all the Wednesdays this month. Use your meal times for prayer.



JUNE 2023

WEEK 1

JUN 1-3

MONDAY

- Psalm 8
- Job 38:1-11
- 2 Tim 1:8-12a

FRIDAY

- Psalm 8
- Job 38: 12-21
- 2 Tim 1:12-b-14

SATURDAY

- Psalm 8
- Job 38:22-38
- John 14:15-17

WEEK 2

JUN 4-10

SUNDAY

1st Sun after Pentecost

- Genesis 1:1-2:4a
- Psalm 8
- 2 Cor 13:11-13
- Matthew 28:16-20

MONDAY

- Psalm 29
- Job 38:39-39:12
- 1 Cor 12:1-3

TUESDAY

- Psalm 29
- Job 39:13-25
- 1 Cor 12:4-13

WEDNESDAY

- Psalm 29
- Job 39:26-40:5
- John 14:25-26

THURSDAY

- Psalm 33:1-12
- Genesis 13:1-18
- 2 Peter 2:17-22

FRIDAY

- Psalm 33:1-12
- Genesis 14:17-24
- Acts 28:1-10

SATURDAY

- Psalm 33:1-12
- Genesis 15:1-20
- Matthew 9:27-34

WEEK 3

JUN 11-17

SUNDAY

- Gen 12:1-9
- Psalm 33:1-12
- Rom 4:13-25
- Mat 9:9-13, 18-26

MONDAY

- Psalm 119:41-48
- Genesis 16:1-15
- 2 Cor 6:14-7:2

TUESDAY

- Psalm 119:41-48
- Genesis 17:1-27
- Hebrews 13:1-16

WEDNESDAY

- Psalm 119:41-48
- Genesis 18:16-33
- Matthew 12:1-8

THURSDAY

- Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
- Genesis 21:1-7
- Hebrews 3:1-6

FRIDAY

- Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
- Genesis 24:1-9
- Acts 7:35-43

SATURDAY

- Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
- Genesis 24:10-52
- Mark 7:1-13

WEEK 4

JUN 18-24

SUNDAY

- Gen 18:1-15
- Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
- Rom 5:1-8
- Mat 9:35-10:8

MONDAY

- Psalm 126
- Genesis 23:1-19
- 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5

TUESDAY

- Psalm 126
- Genesis 25:7-11
- 2 Thessalonians 2:13-3:5

WEDNESDAY

- Psalm 126
- Nehemiah 9:1-8
- Luke 6:12-19

THURSDAY

- Psalm 86:1-10
- Exodus 12:43-49
- Hebrews 2:5-9

FRIDAY

- Psalm 86:1-10
- Genesis 35:1-4
- Acts 5:17-26

SATURDAY

- Psalm 86:1-10
- Ezekiel 29:3-7
- Luke 11:53-12:3

WEEK 5

JUN 25-30

SUNDAY

- Gen 21:8-21
- Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
- Rom 6:1b-11; Mat 10:24-39

MONDAY

- Psalm 86:11-17
- Genesis 16:1-15
- Revelation 2:1-7

TUESDAY

- Psalm 86:11-17
- Genesis 25:12-18
- Revelation 2:8-11

WEDNESDAY

- Psalm 86:11-17
- Jeremiah 42:18-22
- Matthew 10:5-23

THURSDAY

- Psalm 13
- Micah 7:18-20
- Galatians 5:2-6

FRIDAY

- Psalm 13
- 2 Chron 20:5-12
- Galatians 5:7-12