

Monday - Week Forty-nine

Reading the Gospels “on your own”

Summary: You are on your own to read whatever section you want from the four Gospels (perhaps one section as the NIV divides things). Use the following questions to guide you in your reading.

1. What happened? (The facts)
2. What does this section teach you about Jesus?
3. What does this section teach you about yourself? (do any of the people in the reading have characteristics you have?)
4. Can you see God’s grace in this reading? Where?
5. What will this reading lead you to do today?
6. What does this reading lead you to pray about for yourself or others?

Tuesday - Week Forty-nine

Reading the Epistles “on your own”

Summary: You are on your own to read whatever section you want from the New Testament letters (perhaps one section as the NIV divides things). Use the following questions to guide you in your reading.

1. Who wrote this letter? To whom was it written? Are there any other details about the author or recipient that might make this reading clearer to you?
2. How does this section fit into the context of the letter (especially the verses immediately before and after the section)?
3. What does this section teach you about yourself?
4. Can you see God’s grace in this reading? Where?
5. What will this reading lead you to do today?
6. What does this reading lead you to pray about for yourself or others?

Wednesday - Week Forty-nine

Catechism Review

Read Questions 358-362

1. Trespasses is another word for sins. Why is trespass a good word picture for sinning?

2. Someone once said, "American Christians have no idea what sinfulness and total depravity (being enemies of God by nature) are as they dress up and drive their cars to church from their nice houses." Comments?

3. What does it mean exactly that God "forgave" our sins?

4. Keeping that definition in mind, how can we forgive those who sin against us?

5. Why is it true that if we refuse to forgive someone else then we are pushing God's forgiveness out of our heart?

6. Martin Luther had very sharp words about gossiping and holding grudges. Whenever we hold a grudge we can be pretty sure that we haven't forgiven the other person. How can we get rid of grudges?

Thursday - Week Forty-nine

Reading the Old Testament “on your own”

Summary: You are on your own to read whatever section you want from the Old Testament (perhaps one section as the NIV divides things). Use the following questions to guide you in your reading.

1. What happened? (The facts)
2. Is there a hero of the faith in this section?
3. What does this section teach you about yourself? (do any of the people in the reading have characteristics you have?)
4. Can you see God’s grace in this reading? Where?
5. What will this reading lead you to do today?
6. What does this reading lead you to pray about for yourself or others?

Friday - Week Forty-nine

Reading the Psalms “on your own”

Summary: You are on your own to read whatever section you want from the book of Psalms (perhaps one Psalm would work well). Use the following questions to guide you in your reading.

1. Who wrote this Psalm? Is there an introduction to the Psalm?
2. What type of Psalm is it? What is its function? (Teaching, praying, pouring our feelings, etc.)
3. What does this Psalm teach you about yourself?
4. Can you see God’s grace in this Psalm? Where?
5. What will this Psalm lead you to do today?
6. What does this Psalm lead you to pray about for yourself or others?