

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE SCHEDULE FOR 4/1/13 TO 4/7/14

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2013 Read Ecclesiastes 3 and 4

Have you ever watched someone you love struggle with an impossible task? The agony can break your heart. As Ecclesiastes 3 begins, the writer struggles with the most impossible task of all- finding meaning in life from the human perspective, or "under the sun." In chapter 3, he meditates on God's power. But little in the text shows us that he considers God merciful or loving. The writer then moves (chapter 4) to the implications of a meaningful life. Death, he concludes, is better than life, and not ever having been born would be best of all.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2013 Read Ecclesiastes 5 and 6.

Easter and Christmas. We always like to think will go perfectly. Like the hymn, "All is calm, all is bright." Well, maybe not calm, yet. There's always the things you need to do at the last minute. Maybe you need to make a quick trip to the Quicktrip for extra batteries or film for the camera. Perhaps you have a few hundred miles to drive or one more pie to bake before all is calm for you. In all that the hubbub that surrounded Easter last week, maybe today's reading may, at first, all a bit flat for you. But if you read carefully, you'll discover the way to make next year's Christmas or Easter celebration more calm and more bright than any before.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2013 Read Ecclesiastes 7 and 8

"When all was still, and it was midnight, Your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne." That's how part of the one of the introits appointed for Christmas Eve reads. Today's chapters describe the "midnight" that Jesus Christ came to scatter. As you read, look for evidence that this darkness held all human beings hostage.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2013 Read Ecclesiastes 9 and 10

From where the writer of Ecclesiastes stands, "under the sun," he considers the outcome of individual lives. While wisdom is better than foolishness, the wise and foolish alike are headed for the cemetery at life's end. Much of the time, living wisely keeps a person out of trouble, but not always. As you read, think about what your life would be like without the hope of eternity in your Father's house.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2013 Read Ecclesiastes 11 and 12

When human pursuits become ends unto themselves, life seems pointless and unpredictable. But in chapter 12 of Ecclesiastes, the perspective changes. Solomon looks back over the course of his life from a viewpoint above the sun- from the Lord's perspective. As you read, ask yourself what Solomon concludes.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 201 Read Song of Songs 1 through 3

Like a series of snapshots in a young couple's photo album, chapters 1-3 of of the Song of Songs show us the courtship of Solomon and his bride. She is a Shulamite, a country girl whose family owns the vineyard in which she and her brothers work. The king falls head-over-heels in love with her, and their wedding procession is a sight to behold (3:6-11)!

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2013 Join us for worship and the Lord's Supper in the morning and then catch up any readings you missed later in the day.