April 25

Life of Jesus

Healing of Paralyzed Man

Jesus came home to Capernaum, and the news of his return spread, they came to hear Jesus teach, there were so many in the house that there was no room left to stand. Four men carrying a paralyzed man on a mat could not enter the house. The men went on the roof, removed some tiles and lowered the man down to Jesus. – Read: Mark 2:5.

The Scribes in the room thought – Read: Mark 2:7.

Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, - Read: Mark 2:9. Jesus went on to prove to them that he had the authority to forgive sins on earth. Read: Mark 2:10, 11.

Before their very eyes the paralyzed man was healed!

It is truly a miracle when someone has their sins forgiven and almost before our very eyes we see a transformation from a sinner to a saint, at least a person is trying with God’s help, to be a saint!

VERSE FOR TODAY: Mark 2:12.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Lord, please help me not to doubt a forgiven sinner’s new found life, but instead help them grow in you.

April 26

Life of Jesus

A Servant Healed

A Roman officer hurried up to Jesus and begged him saying – Read: Matthew 8:6, 7.

The officer replied that he was not worthy of a visit from Jesus, but if Jesus would just give the order for his servant to get well, because of being an officer in the army he was used to being under authority and possessing authority, thus trusting people to do as they were told! Jesus was amazed at this Gentile’s faith Read: Matthew 8:10.

Jesus healed the officer’s son – Read: Matthew 8:13.

We must believe as the officer did, we no longer can have Jesus come to our homes in the flesh, so our faith must be strong enough to believe that we will receive when we ask in prayer.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Matthew 8:8

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to ask in such a way that I can receive and the faith to know that I will receive.

April 27

Life of Jesus

The Parable of the Sower

Jesus often taught in parables, a brief story everyone can identify with that has a spiritual meaning.

The Parable of the Sower - Read: Matthew 13:1-8.

Identify who the different seeds are:

* The seed on the path
* The seed on the rocky ground
* The seed in the thorns or weeds
* The seed in good soil

Compare your answers with Matthew 13:18-23 – the explanation Jesus gave for the Parable of the Sower.

We must also root ourselves deeply in the Word of God, and grow to produce fruit.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Matthew 13:9.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to bear fruit for you. May I be deeply rooted in your Word.

April 28

Life of Jesus

The New and the Old

Read: Mark 2:21-22.

The Jewish religion was like the worn out wineskins, if the new wine of the gospel would be poured into those worn out skins it could have not been contained. Jesus came with a whole new message, not just a patched up version of the old Law, He came with grace and love.

God did not send Jesus to patch up the Jewish religion, just to have it fall apart again. We must not patch up our lives, but start a whole new life in Christ.

VERSE FOR TODAY: II Corinthians 5:17.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Please help me, O Lord, to make a whole new life in you!

April 29

Life of Jesus

The Parable of the Weeds

Read: Matthew 13:24-30 and Matthew 13:36-43.Match up the parable people/ items with the people/items from the explanation:

Jesus Satan

Field Christians

Good Seed Non-Christians

Weeds World

Sower of weeds Sower

Like in the parable the world is filled with Christians and Non- Christians we live all together, sinners and False Christians are hard to detect, only God can judge and pass correct judgment.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Mark 7:6, 7

PRAYER THOUGHT: May I, O Lord, be sincere in my heart as well as my actions.

April 30

Life of Jesus

The Kingdom

Read: Mark 4:31-32.

The kingdom of God is like the mustard seed; it started out small but has grown into a worldwide endeavor. OR The mustard seed represents the abnormal growth of the church, leaving a lot of room for Satan to work evil in its many branches.

Jesus told them another parable: Read: Matthew 13:33.

A little yeast can make a lot of dough rise; in the kingdom of heaven a few dedicated souls can make a big showing in bringing others to Jesus. OR The leaven represents evil, like in wines and beer, yeast causes fermenting, a little evil can spoil a lot of people.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Acts 4:4.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, to always be the good in the kingdom of heaven and not to contribute to evil.