

Today:
November 23, 2014

Scripture Focus: Psalms 96:4-9; John 4:19-24

For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
 he is to be feared above all gods.
For all the gods of the nations are idols,
 but the Lord made the heavens.
Splendor and majesty are before him;
 strength and glory are in his sanctuary.
Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations,
 ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
 bring an offering and come into his courts.
Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness;
 tremble before him, all the earth.

(Psalms 96:4-9, NIV)

“Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

“Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth

(John 4:19-24, NIV)

Notes from Worship:

How did God catch your attention? To what is God calling you this week?

Questions for Discussion:

- How would you compare or contrast the mission of God’s people in the Old and New Testaments?
- Do you think of yourself as a “missionary” or is that title limited to a small number of specially selected members of the church?
- In ways is Waterford engaged in God’s mission of “reconciling all things to himself in Jesus Christ?”

This Week: **November 24-29**

Scripture Readings:

Monday 11/24	Tuesday 11/25	Wednesday 11/26	Thursday 11/27	Friday 11/28	Saturday 11/29
Judges 2-5	Judges 6-9	Judges 10-13	Judges 14-18	Judges 19-21	Ruth 1-4

Questions for Reflection:

These questions are meant to help get you thinking about the readings for each day. Feel free to also use this space to jot down other questions and insights gleaned from your reading.

Monday

What do you make of the “Judges cycle” present in these chapters (Israel is unfaithful, God appoints a Judge, the Judge rescues the people)?

Tuesday

What strikes you about Gideon? (Judges 6-8)

Wednesday

What is significant about the birth of Samson? (Judges 13)

Thursday

There is more to Samson than the story with Delilah. What kind of person was he? What do you think of him after reading his whole story? (Judges 14-16)

Friday

By the end of Judges, things have gotten especially bad. What will God do next?

Saturday

What is the significance of the story of Ruth? What did you learn from this story?

Taking Scripture to Heart:

As we focus on the prophetic voice, our memory text is **Micah 6:6-8**. In only a few verses, this passage summarizes the heart of what many of the prophets teach to God’s people during the time of the kings. That being said, there are many other powerful passages throughout the prophetic literature, which you could also take to heart.

Next Sunday: November 30

Theme: Return from exile & attempted renewal

Scripture Focus: Ezra 5-6, 9-10; Nehemiah 1, 8-9