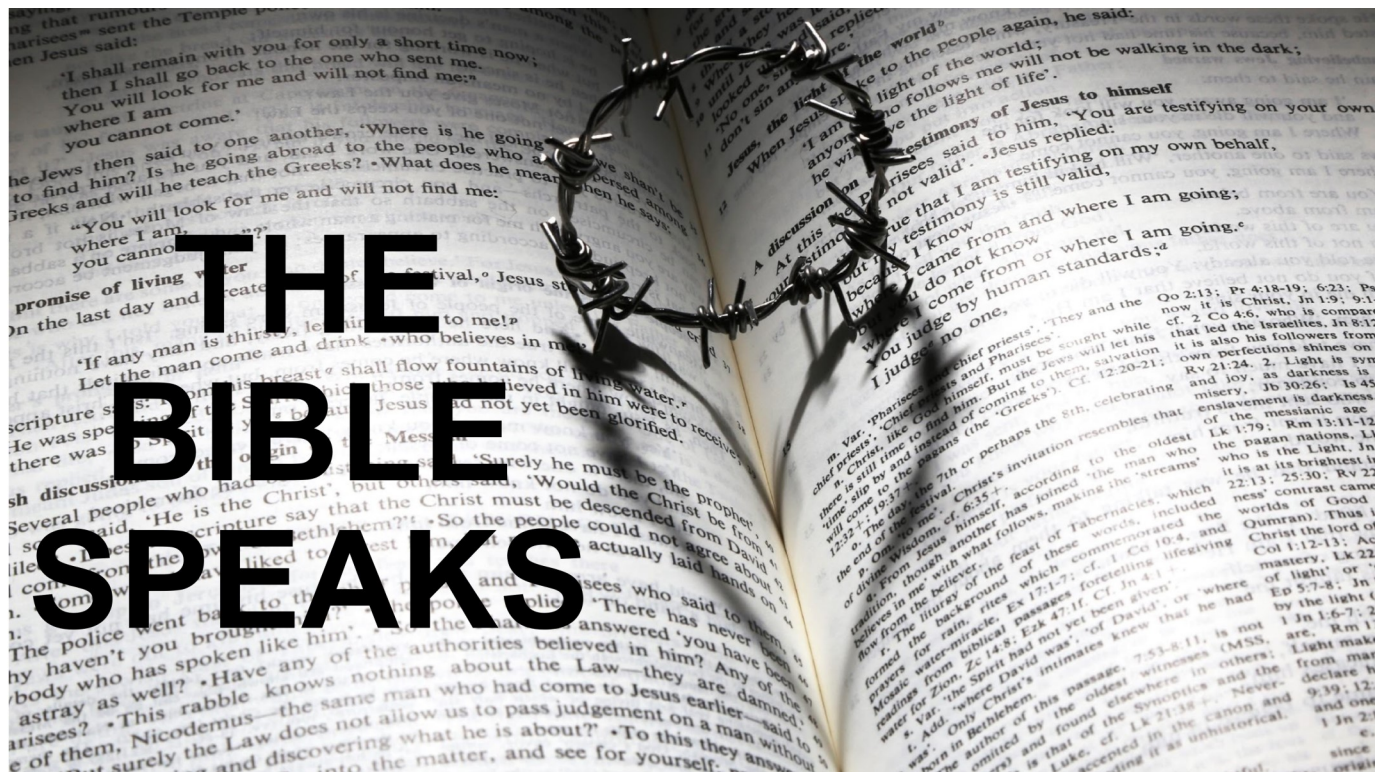


Callide Valley Presbyterian Church

[Biloela & Jambin]



growth groups booklet term 3 2025

1	Pastoral Care In God's House	Psalms 139:1-24	Jul 20
2	The Bible Speaks to Fear and Anxiety	Matthew 6:25-34	Jul 27
3	The Bible Speaks to Guilt and Shame	Genesis 3:1-24	Aug 03
4	The Bible Speaks to Anger and Rage	James 4:1-12	Aug 10
5	The Bible Speaks to Grief and Despair		Aug 17
6	The Bible Speaks to Suffering and Pain		Aug 24
7	The Bible Speaks to Depression		Aug 31
8	The Bible Speaks to Addiction		Sep 07
9	The Bible Speaks to Doubt		Sep 14
10	The Bible Speaks to The Elderly		Sep 21



What are some of the 'normal ways' we care for members of our own family?



^{NIV} **Psalm 62:7-8** ⁷ My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge. ⁸ Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.



In God's house, God draws near to us and calls us to pour out our hearts to him.



READ PSALM 139:1-6

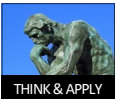
1. How well does God know us?

2. How does this qualify him to care for us?

READ PSALM 139:7-12

3. What things does God continue to provide for us 'no matter our location'?

READ PSALM 139:13-16



4. Why does the Psalmist praise God in verse 14?

5. How well does God know us if he is our Creator? (Again, how does this qualify Him to care for us?)

READ PSALM 62:5-8

6. What does King David recommend we do?



7. What might it mean for us to pour out our hearts? Can God be trusted with such personal things? What might hold you back from pouring out your heart to God?



8. Do you normally pour out your heart to God? (Why/Why not?)

9. If we are going to care for those around us—how important will it be for us to listen to them?

Read Psalm 23:4 .

What does this tell us about our God?

What confidence can we have to draw near to him?



10. What kind of things will it be important for us to listen for?

Read Psalm 10

11. What kind of things are on the Psalmists heart?



12. What are they calling God to do?

13. What is the final reflection that the Psalmist gives in Psalm 10 (vv.16-18)?

14. What aspects of Pastoral Care in God's house might we adopt as we care for others in our church family?

15. What kind of culture should exist in the church around pastoral care, and what resources do we have at our disposal?



16. How would you seek God's guidance when it comes to a difficulty that your brother or sister in Christ is facing? (See Matt 7:7-12; Prov 2:1-11)

Pray together about the encouragement and challenge raised by God's Word through this study. Note prayer points below for your partners in the gospel (Growth Group members) and their contacts:

Growth Group members		Unbelieving friends	

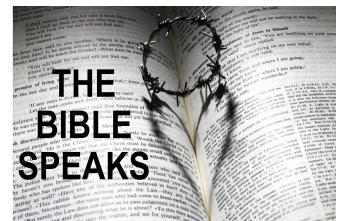


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How important is it for us to remember God's faithfulness?

Pray that we'd be encouraged to continue to pray for each other and allow God to bring us to maturity in Christ Jesus.



NIV Psalm 139:13-16
¹³ For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

Give thanks to our Father in Heaven for our faith in Jesus Christ and the love we have for each other, and pray that these would grow more and more.

Pray that we would remember to encourage others this week, especially those who are facing hardship in their lives.

Praise God that he remains faithful even though we do not

pray also

for Term 3 at School

for VIP-Net Jr, VIP-Net Youth and Sunday school which kick off over these next two weeks.



for sunday's bible talk and next week's study read...

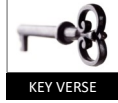
Matthew 6:25-34

2

The Bible Speaks to Fear and Anxiety



What are some of the common things people fear?



^{NIV} **Matthew 6:31-33** ³¹ So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.



God calls us to pour out our hearts to Him, to draw near to Him, and to trust that he is in control of all things.



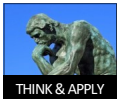
READ MATTHEW 6:25-34

1. From these verses, what does Jesus call us to 'observe' in nature?

2. How do these observations point us to God's love and provision for us?

3. What does the world 'run after', and what should our attitude be to these things?

4. What are some of the ways we might try to 'take control' of a situation we're worried about? Who are we trusting when we try to 'take control' of a situation we're worried about?



5. What does Jesus remind us that we have no control over & that worrying won't help with?

6. How are these things reflected in the lesson of the Manna in the Desert in Exodus 16?



7. How does Jesus calm us in our fears and anxieties? (See also Luke 12:32-36)



READ MARK 4:35-41

8. What are the disciples afraid of and are they right to be afraid?

9. What is their plea to Jesus (What important question do they ask him)?

Read Luke 12:4-7; Exodus 20:20; Jeremiah 32:40

Is there a time when fear is good?



10. Have they done the right thing in coming to Jesus in their fear? (Why/ Why not?)

11. How does Jesus demonstrate his care for them, and what is his rebuke?



READ PSALM 23

12. How does the Lord show his care for us in Jesus? What should be our response when we have fears and anxieties?

13. How might we help someone struggling with fear and anxiety?

14. What are some of the 'Big Fears' that people have, and how has Jesus overcome them?



Pray together about the encouragement and challenge raised by God's Word through this study. Note prayer points below for your partners in the gospel (Growth Group members) and their contacts:

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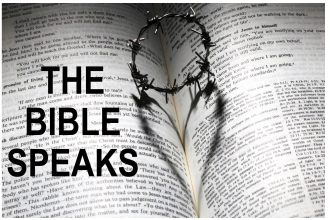


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How important is it for us to keep living the way God wants us to live rather than doing what we want to do?

Pray that we'd be encouraged to live the righteous lives that God desires.



NIV Luke 12:32-34
32 "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Give thanks to our Father in Heaven that he chose to rescue us through faith in Jesus Christ. Pray that our love for God and the love we have for each other, would grow more and more as we mature in Christ.

Pray that we would remember to encourage others this week, to live according to God's desire for our lives.

Praise God that he has a plan to bring his people to maturity and furnish them with the crown of life.

pray also

for Missionaries Keith and Elspeth Campbell as they visit churches across QLD.

for our Sunday School ministry.

for the PCQ.



for sunday's bible talk and next week's study read...

Genesis 3

3

The Bible Speaks to Guilt and Shame



What sins in modern society draw the biggest amounts of guilt and shame?



^{NIV} **Matthew 9:11-12** ¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹² On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.



At the Cross Jesus removes our guilt and shame and replaces it with righteousness and honour.

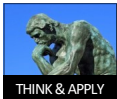


READ GENESIS 3:1-7

1. What did the serpent say, and how was this different to God’s command?

2. Who did the woman listen to and what action did she take? (What was the fruit desirable for?)

3. How did the relationship with Adam change and with God change the moment they ate the fruit?



4. How does God respond to their sin? What is gracious about his response?

5. How do Adam and Eve’s actions shape the whole of the rest of the course of Humanity??

Read Isaiah 61:10-11

How does Isaiah say we are clothed?

What response does Isaiah suggest with regards to this clothing we receive?

How is this different to being ‘exposed in sin’ in the Garden?

READ GALATIANS 3:26-29

6. How does Jesus deal with our shame?



7. What effect does this ‘new clothing’ have on our lives/ what is our new status?



8. Given this new status, how should we treat one another when we sin? (How have we dealt with sinners in our church in the past?)



READ MATTHEW 9:9-13

9. What is Jesus being criticised for? How does he explain his actions?



10. What happens to a person when we draw near to them in their guilt and shame and offer them the invitation of Salvation in Jesus?

READ ROMANS 3:20-26

11. How does faith in Jesus change us?

12. What is our situation with God without Jesus?



13. What does God DEMONSTRATE to us through the shedding of Jesus' blood? How does this give us confidence to speak to our non-Christian friends about Jesus?

Pray together about the encouragement and challenge raised by God's Word through this study. Note prayer points below for your partners in the gospel (Growth Group members) and their contacts:

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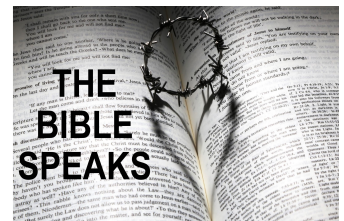


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What are some of the best ways to remember God and how he calls us to live as his people?

Pray that we'd be encouraged to live the righteous lives that God desires.



NIV Romans 3:21-24 ²¹ *But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify.* ²² *This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile,* ²³ *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,* ²⁴ *and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.*

Give thanks to our Father in Heaven for our faith in Jesus Christ and the love we have for each other. Pray that we would be rich in our faith in Jesus and so inherit the kingdom he has promised to those who love him.

Pray that we would remember to encourage others this week, remembering how Jesus has given his life so that we can be forgiven.

Praise God that he has a plan to bring salvation to his people, and give thanks for the new covenant in Jesus' blood.

pray also

for our Elders and those who lead our ministries.

for the VIP-Net Youth and their leaders.

For our Police Force and those in our Emergency Services.



for sunday's bible talk and next week's study read...

TBA

4

The Bible Speaks to Anger and Rage



What are some common things that people get angry about?



^{NIV} **Ephesians 4:1-3** As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.



Jesus draws near to violent and angry people in a way that causes them to consider why they are angry, and what their anger is doing to their relationships.



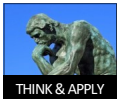
READ JAMES 4:1-6

1. What is going on with the spiral of anger that James is describing?

2. What are people generally angry about and how does this tie in with his warning about 'loving the world'?

READ JAMES 4:7-12

3. What does James recommend in order to 'escape the downward spiral of anger'?



4. According to what James says in verse 9, how serious is the issue of anger in our lives? (how soon should we act to do something about it?)

5. Often in our anger we believe that we are right about something and the other party is 'wrong'. What does James say about this? (v.11)

6. What critical piece of information does James remind us of and how might this change our attitude to someone? (v.12)



7. What do you think it means to be 'humble before God', and how might this change our attitude towards others?



8. How do John's words in 1John 2:15-17 add weight to what James says about being 'friends with the world'?

9. Do you think we are ever in danger of being friends with the world and allowing this to fuel our anger?

Read Micah 6:6-8

What things do not please God according to Micah?

What is it that Micah identifies that the lord DOES require of us?

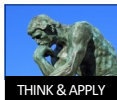


READ EPHESIANS 4:25-32

10. Why does Paul say we are to speak truthfully to our fellow man?

11. Who is getting a foothold in us when we allow our anger 'to persist'?

12. In 1John 2:9-11 —> what does anger do to us when we remain angry with another Christian brother or sister?



13. What does Paul counsel in verses 29-32 and what reason does he give for his counsel?

14. How could you potentially resolve an angry conflict in your life?

15. Anger is not always hot blooded, red faced rage—what other forms of anger are out there and what do we need to be careful of in our own lives? (See Paul's list in Galatians 5:19-21 & Ephesians 4:31)



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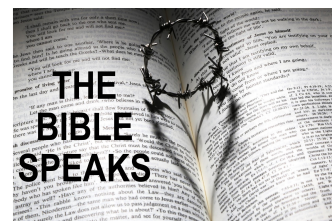


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What are some ways we can remember what Jesus has done for us?

Pray that we'd be encouraged to live the righteous lives that God desires.



NIV Ephesians 4:31-32

³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. eyes."

Give thanks to our Father in Heaven for our faith in Jesus Christ and the love we have for each other. Pray that we would strive to live righteously in God's sight, knowing that Jesus forgives us when we get it wrong.

Pray that we would remember to encourage others this week, to trust Jesus and follow his example by doing the things he did.

Praise God that he has a plan to make his people holy and bless us with eternal life.

pray also

for our Young Adults group

For Lachlan Dingwall and Charisse Cullen and their ministry to university students

for the work of the Presbyterian Inland Mission and the work they do to bring the gospel to the remotest parts of our country.



for sunday's bible talk and next week's study read...

TBA .