

June 30, 2021

Inspired by Hope

"Heavenly Father, I look around and find sadness all around. Life is difficult for so many. The wicked prosper, and the righteous suffer. I search for answers, but alas, nothing makes sense of all the sorrow. Comfort my soul, O Lord. Send Your Spirit to impart peace and understanding. Kindle the flame of Your love in my heart, that I might be able to ease the pain of my neighbor and bring glory to Your name. In Your dear Son's name, Amen."



SOMETIMES THINGS DON'T
WORK OUT AS YOU PLANNED
BECAUSE THERE'S A MUCH
BETTER PLAN ON THE WAY.



THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Ezekiel 2:1–5
2 Corinthians 12:1–10
Mark 6:1–13



**Please send your uplifting inspirational messages or pictures to our church
email: info@hosannatabor.org.**

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The Ministers of Christ Are Sent with His Authority to Forgive Sins and Give Life

The prophet Ezekiel was raised up by the Spirit of the Lord and sent to speak an unpopular Word to the rebellious house of Israel. As a prophet, he was not to speak his own word, but to preach the Law and the Gospel: *"Thus says the Lord God," whether the people "hear or refuse to hear"* (Ezek. 2:4-5). So, too, in the footsteps of the prophets before Him, the Lord Jesus *"went about among the villages teaching"* (Mark 6:6). In His hometown, as elsewhere, *"many who heard him were astonished," marveling at His wisdom and at the "mighty works done by his hands,"* and yet *"they took offense at him"* (Mark 6:2-3). The offense culminates in His cross, which is, ironically, the heart and center of His *"authority over the unclean spirits"* (Mark 6:7). It is by that authority of His cross that those He sends preach repentance, *"cast out many demons" and heal the sick* (Mark 6:12-13). Thus, the apostle Paul boasts in the cross of Christ and in his own weaknesses, knowing that God's grace is sufficient and that the power of Christ *"is made perfect in weakness"* (2 Cor. 12:8-9).

Cuban Sliders

These wonderful little rolls are baked until lightly toasted and the cheese melts. The leftover King's Hawaiian ham sliders keep really well in the fridge, and they make a lovely cold snack.

Ingredients

2 packages (12 oz. each) Hawaiian sweet rolls
1-1/4 lb. thinly sliced deli ham
9 slices Swiss cheese (about 6 oz.)
24 dill pickle slices

Topping:

1/2 c. butter, cubed
2 Tbl. Finely chopped onion
2 Tbl. Dijon mustard

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350*
2. Without separating rolls, cut each package of rolls in half horizontally.
3. Arrange bottom halves in a greased 13x9-in baking pan.
4. Layer with ham, cheese, and pickles.
5. Replace top halves of rolls.
6. Melt butter.
7. Stir in onion and mustard.
8. drizzle over rolls.
9. Bake, covered, 10 minutes.
10. Uncover, bake until golden brown and heated through, 5-10 minutes



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Reading the Bible in 365 Days

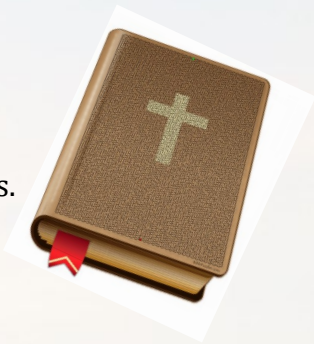
This Bible Study Plan is found at BibleStudyTogether.com

This is a chronological cross-reference Bible Study with study questions.

Please check out their site for more information.

Below are this weeks daily readings.

Each reading is about 10 minutes., with 2 readings per day.



Wed, Jun 30, 2021: Joshua 10:1-27 and Joshua 10:28-11:23

Journal Questions: Why could the leaders of Israel be courageous and confident?
Why didn't the inhabitants of the land make peace with Israel?

Thu, Jul 1, 2021: Joshua 12:1-14:7, Mark 9:14-29 and Joshua 13:8-14:5, Matthew 17:14-21

Journal Questions: What did God command Joshua to do before he died?
How have you seen faith and prayer accomplish mighty things in your life?

Fri, Jul 2, 2021: Joshua 14:6-15, Luke 9:37:45 and Joshua 15:20-63, Mark 9:30-32, Matthew 17:22-23

Journal Questions: Why is it necessary for God to hide and conceal things from us for a season?
Why were the disciples distressed about what Jesus said?

Sat, Jul 3, 2021: Joshua 16:10-17, Matthew 17:24-27, Mark 9:33-37 and Joshua 18:1-28

Journal Questions: Who did Jesus seek to walk peaceably among those who did not understand who He was?
Why did Joshua send people out to write a description of the land?

Sun, Jul 4, 2021: Joshua 19:1-31 and Joshua 19:32-20:9, Matthew 18:1-6, Luke 9:46-48

Journal Questions: What promise to Abraham was fulfilled in today's reading?
What is the purpose of the cities of refuge?

Mon, Jul 5, 2021: Joshua 21:1-33, Luke 9:49-50, Mark 9:38-41 and Joshua 21:34-45, 1 Chronicles 6:54-81, Mark 9:42-50, Matthew 18:7-14

Journal Questions: What kind of deeds will God reward?
How does Jesus describe hell?

Tue, Jul 6, 2021: Joshua 22:1-34, Matthew 18:15-35 and Joshua 23:1-24:28, 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Journal Questions: How do mercy and forgiveness work together?
What reasons did the Israelites have for serving the Lord?

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Keep Building Up Your Faith by Tim Hetzner from Lutheran Church Charities

*And without faith it is impossible to please God,
because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists
and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. — Hebrews 11:6*

We usually think of faith in terms of getting answers to our prayers and receiving from God the things that He alone can provide. And that's okay. But there's a more important reason for building up your faith. Faith is about pleasing God!

*Without faith it is impossible to please Him,
for he who comes to God must believe that He is,
and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*

What pleases God? Your faith!

What displeases God? Your lack of faith!

In the past, Christians sometimes described praying passionately as 'storming the gates of heaven'. It was a sincere sentiment, but it wasn't completely accurate. The battle isn't between you and heaven! You have a red-carpet welcome to approach God at any time.

*Let us...come boldly to the throne of grace,
that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. — Hebrews 4:16*

If there's a battle, it's between you and the forces of hell (see *Ephesians 6:12-18*). Why are our prayers sometimes not effective?

The Bible says,

*The word which they heard did not profit them,
not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. — Hebrews 4:2*

Yes, God is moved by your needs, but He responds to your faith. And how do you do that?

*Faith comes by hearing,
and hearing by the word of God. — Romans 10:17*

It works like this: get into God's Word, get God's Word into you, pray, and things will begin to change for the better in your life.

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Help me to hear, read, and heed Your Word!

In Jesus' Name, Amen