

Sermon Notes

"Listen, Learn, Leap"
March 8, 2020



**First
Friends**
Church



Seeking God
in Solitude



Finding God
in Friendship



Celebrating God
in Community



Reflecting God
in Relationships

Reflection Questions *(please use these individually or in groups)*

Sermon Reflections:

1. What experience have you had in nature, or with something artistic, that has taught you something about who God is or who you are in God's eyes?
2. How have you learned about the presence or ways of God by listening to the stories of others? Have you shared your own stories of experiencing God with someone else?
3. Have you felt a "nudge" from the Holy Spirit recently? Were you obedient to that leading? Is there still an opportunity to respond?
4. Ask God to use Scripture in your life this week to rebuke you, correct you, teach you and train you, so that you will be ready for the work He calls you to do.

Devotional Reading & Inward Reflection

- **Numbers 22:21-31 | What does this story teach us about developing an awareness of God's presence and His desire to redirect us?**
- **John 14:15-27 | What kinds of responses do you have to the promises about the Holy Spirit that Jesus gives here?**
- **2 Peter 1:19-21 | What do we learn about Scripture from this passage? How does it compliment or enhance 2 Timothy 3:16-17? What do you think it looked like for the human authors of Scripture to be "carried along by the Holy Spirit?"**

Self-Care Disciplines *(from Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster)*

March Discipline: Submission | Scripture & Family (p.122)

Submission and service function concurrently. Hence, much of the practical outflow of submission will come in the next month (service). There are, however, seven acts of submission that we should draw attention to. There will be one or two mentioned each week in the month of March.

The second act of submission is to the Scripture. As we submit ourselves to the Word of God (Jesus), so we submit ourselves to the word of God (Scripture). We yield ourselves first to hear the word, second to receive the word, and third to obey the word. We look to the Spirit who inspired the Scriptures to interpret and apply them to our condition. The word of Scripture, animated by the Holy Spirit, lives with us throughout the day.

The third act of submission is to our family. The dictum for the household should be "Let each of you look not only to his or her own interests, but also the interests of others" (Phil 2:4). Freely and graciously the members of the family make allowance for each other. The primary deed of submission is a commitment to listen to the other family members. Its corollary is a willingness to share, which is itself a work of submission.

Note: Don't let these burden you each week. Please engage only if you feel it would be beneficial in caring for yourself. Sometimes self-care involves giving yourself a break, even from self care disciplines.