

March 8-13

Monday, March 8, 2010 *Read: Luke 12:35-48* From the Lutheran Study Bible: *Christian leaders sometimes see their positions more in terms of privilege than responsibility. Jesus' example of self-sacrifice underscores the shallowness of such attitudes. We emulate His way of humble service because He was willing to endure all things for us...* **Prayer starter: Ask the Lord for a spirit of readiness that looks for Jesus to return soon to gather up His church.**

Tuesday, March 9, 2010 *Read: Luke 12:49-59* Although He certainly is “the Prince of Peace,” the call of Christ often forces His followers to consider deeply to whom they will be committed. There is no fence sitting when it comes to being a disciple of the Lord. **Prayer starter: Pray that God would strengthen your faith so that you choose Jesus over everyone and everything.**

Wednesday, March 10, 2010 *Read: Luke 13:1-9* Having read the Parable of the Fig Tree, remember this: The Lord gives us His Holy Spirit who enables us to produce rich fruit of faith in our lives. God does not leave us on our own to try and do such work. **Prayer starter: Review Galatians 5:22-23. Which fruit of faith would you like to see the Holy Spirit produce in you? Pray about it.**

Thursday, March 11, 2010 *Read: Luke 13:10-21* The point of the parables in verses 18 and 20 is this – growth in our Christian faith takes time and is not accomplished in days or weeks. All throughout our lives, the Spirit is at work in the soil of our hearts, producing crops that yield a fine harvest. **Prayer starter: Pray Psalm 84 today.**

Friday, March 12, 2010 *Read: Luke 13:22-35* Here's an amazing development – the Pharisees are warning Jesus to stay away from Herod! With friends like these, who needs enemies, right? Notice that nothing can keep Jesus from His passion and death for the sins of the world. **Prayer starter: Thank Jesus today for His amazing love that moved Him to give up His life so that you might have eternal life.**

Saturday, March 13, 2010 *Read: Luke 14:1-14* Once again, Jesus accepts an invitation to have dinner with a Pharisee (see 7:36-50). Note verses 13-14: Jesus is encouraging us to exhibit the same grace toward others as God has first extended toward us. **Prayer starter: Ask God for a humble heart that is glad to receive the gifts offered in worship tomorrow.**