

# Grow Pray Study Guide Oct. 9 - Oct. 13

Monday - <u>Luke 10:1-12</u>

Tuesday - <u>Luke 2:1-7, 23:44</u>-46

Wednesday - Psalm 93

Thursday - 2 Corinthians 3:17

Friday - Galatians 5:18-21

#### Monday, October 9 - Be Vulnerable

### Luke 10:1-12

Notice here how Jesus calls the seventy to go out not with power, strength, or riches but to rely and trust on others to provide their needs. The seventy are invited into vulnerability with the people they share the Gospel with. They will depend on hospitality. Instead of responding with anger towards those who refuse them they simply "shake off the dust" and move on. The stories we tell shape how we live as the church. What story does this tell about The Garden? What story does this tell about you?

Prayer: God who sends us out, remind me to trust in you and have vulnerability with those I share the Gospel with. Let my actions speak to your love. Amen.

## Tuesday, October 10 - A Vulnerable God

# Luke 2:1-7, 23:44-46

Luke 10 was an invitation into our own vulnerability. But this vulnerability only mirrors the vulnerability of our God. As Jesus sent us out into the world, Jesus was sent into our world. Paul says "born of a woman" in Galatians. But these words remind us that our God became flesh and dwelt among us. Jesus was sent even to his own death. What vulnerability do you see in the life and death of Jesus? What story does this tell about our God?

Prayer: Vulnerable God, you humbled yourself and lived as we do. You know the joy of our life and the sorrow of our death. Invite us to recognize the power in the love of our Savior, who knows us so well. Amen.

# Wednesday, October 4 - A Steady God

Psalm 93

Do you know the song "What a Mighty God We Serve?" Psalm 93 proclaims that in stark juxtaposition to the vulnerability of Luke. But this God is not mighty as violence, or wrath, or anger. But mighty, with the beauty of the waters that flow in nature and the steadiness of gravity. Instead of mighty God we witness a steadfast God. A God that nourishes our souls; a God we can stand firm in. Where do you need God's nourishment in your life today?

Prayer: God of steadiness, some days my feet seem to stumble on the flat ground. May your presence steady my breathing, steady my heartbeat, and steady my spirit. Amen.

## Thursday, October 5 - A Freeing God

## 2 Corinthians 3:17

In vulnerability and in power we find freedom. In the vulnerability of Jesus, our Emmanuel, and in the steadiness of God, our Creator, we find the trust and peace of God, the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit brings us peace, understanding, wisdom, and discernment. God's Spirit encourages us in times of difficulty and accompanies us in times of gratitude. It is in the presence of God's Spirit that recognize not only our sinfulness but also God's abundant and everlasting grace. And in that grace, we come to realize our freedom in a life lived with God. Where do you need to experience God's freeing grace today?

Prayer: Gentle Spirit, with a soft breeze, or a hopeful thought you fill me with peace and understanding. May you guide my steps today to receive your grace. Amen.

## Friday, October 6 - Be Righteous

#### Galatians 5:18-21

In opposition to the verses that list the fruits of the Spirit before this passage. Paul, shares with the Galatians all the ways they are "getting it wrong." This is one of the most misused and misquoted passages in Scripture. Often claiming to speak of the sinfulness of homosexuality. This passage instead is about the sinfulness that happens in relationships. Each action listed is something that would cause harm to yourself or to others. It is in these ways that we are most sinful. We all struggle to recognize the call to righteousness. Too often we are like the Galatians trying to follow the "letter of the law" and live in a way that is "good enough" to be "in" with God. Instead, Paul teaches us all that being righteous is about right relationships, not right behaviors. This passage is a call to love ourselves and love others. Where do you need to live into righteousness today? Prayer: Forgiving God, too often I measure myself with the wrong markers. Today, let the model of your love be my guide. Amen.