

Sunday Morning: August 22, 2010

Jonathan Nelms

“Hope for the Hopeless”

Psalms 71:1-6

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

Daily Devotional Thoughts for August 22-28, 2010

SUNDAY, August 22: Take a moment to reflect on the sermon this morning. I mentioned at least three specific people who found hope in the midst of hopelessness. Can you name them? In what way do you feel hopeless? Ask God for encouragement.

MONDAY, August 23: Read Psalm 71

This is known as a psalm for old age. Which verses specifically mention old age? What does the psalmist want to do in verse 18? How can this be accomplished in our church today?

TUESDAY, August 24: Read Jeremiah 1

This passage is Jeremiah's call to ministry. Unlike Psalm 71 which speaks of old age, Jeremiah claims that he is too young to be used by God. Are you refusing to do something that you know God wants you to do? What is it and why are you putting it off? What excuse are you using? Ask God to forgive you and then obey Him.

WEDNESDAY, August 25: Read Hebrews 12

The sermon last Sunday morning focused on the last eleven verses of this chapter which offer a wonderful assurance of God's mercy. However, the first seventeen verses offer great hope as well. They are a challenge to persevere when times are tough. God's discipline is a sign of his love for us. If you are having a difficult week, then read verses 12 and 13 again. Pray for God's strength even in your weakness.

THURSDAY, August 26: Read Luke 13:10-17

The focus passage for today tells the story of Jesus healing a disabled woman. The Lord frees her from the crippling effects of Satan. She was bound by Satan for eighteen years before Jesus freed her. To what are you bound today? Do you believe that Jesus can free you from this bondage? Why not ask him to do so now? Celebrate the freedom found in Jesus Christ.

FRIDAY, August 27: Read Matthew 6:5-15

In the focus passage for Thursday, Jesus said that the synagogue ruler was a hypocrite. The Greek word used here means “actor.” It is the same word used by Jesus in Matthew 6:2 where he explains that a hypocrite is just acting for the praise of others. Do you ever perform for others to gain their approval? What does Jesus say about this in Matthew 6:5-8? Commit to being authentic today.

SATURDAY, August 28: Read Hebrews 12:28-29

These two verses include a call for Christians to offer acceptable worship. What is acceptable worship? Psalm 51:15-17 states what is an acceptable sacrifice of God. What is it? Take a moment to prayerfully consider these verses. Make them your personal prayer to God today. How can you live this kind of worship?

More resources for personal, family, and corporate worship, can be found on our website: www.tools4worship.com. Glenda and I offer this site free of charge as a way to provide resources that can enhance your daily walk with the Lord. Please let us know if you find it helpful.

The Lord be with you! - Jonathan Nelms