

May 24th. - John 7:25-52.

Reflect: People are still divided today about Jesus. The Holy Spirit (predicted here) alone can take away people's confusion and bring them to faith in Jesus.

Prayer: "Holy Spirit, pour in me your streams of living water. Amen."

May 25th. - John 8:1-20.

Reflect: We are all sinners. Rather than condemning others, we ought to point our fellow sinners to Jesus, so that we might all find forgiveness in him.

Prayer: "Lord Jesus, thank you that you accept me, despite my sin. Amen."

May 26th. - John 8:21-38.

Reflect: Knowing Jesus is to know the truth which sets us free. When Jesus sets us free from sin, we are *truly* free, *really* free, *totally* free! Free indeed!

Prayer: "Lord Jesus, help me to celebrate the freedom I have in you! Amen."

May 27th. - John 8:39-59.

Reflect: Before Abraham was born, Jesus already existed. Whoever keeps Jesus' word will never see death. These are amazing claims. What's more, they're also TRUE! *Prayer: "Jesus, help me to recognise you as my Lord and my God! Amen."*

May 28th. - John 9:1-17.

Reflect: Sickness is **not** a punishment for sin, says Jesus. Here it provides an opportunity for God's power to be displayed. It's also a call for US to show mercy! *Prayer: "Lord, help me to trust you, in sickness and in health. Amen."*

May 29th. - John 9:18-41.

Reflect: The physical blindness of the man born blind was nothing compared to the spiritual blindness of the Jewish leaders! They didn't WANT to see!

Prayer: "Lord Jesus, keep me from spiritual blindness and hardness of heart. Amen."

May 30th. - John 10:1-21.

Reflect: Jesus is the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep.

Where could life be safer or more fulfilling than in Jesus' sheepfold? Nowhere!

Prayer: "Good Shepherd, I just love being one of your sheep! Amen."

May 31st. - John 10:22-42.

Reflect: Jesus' sheep listen to his voice, he knows them (personally!), and they follow him. How accurately does that describe your relationship with Jesus right now?

Prayer: "Good Shepherd, help me to hear your voice and to follow you. Amen."

(Daily Devotions with thought-starters and prayer)

© Pastor Richard Haar

May 1st. - Luke 21:1-19.

Reflect: If you knew for certain that the world would end in six months time, how would that fact change your life? What would you do differently?

Prayer: "Lord Jesus, help me to be ready for your return at all times. Amen."

May 2nd. - Luke 21:20-38.

Reflect: In the midst of trouble and uncertainty, what encouragement do you draw from Jesus' promise that his words will never pass away? This is solid ground!! *Prayer: "Lord Jesus, I know that whatever happens to me, I am safe with you. Amen."*

May 3rd. - Luke 22:1-23.

Reflect: Only a "friend" can betray you. Judas shared the Last Supper with Jesus and still betrayed him. When have you been tempted to betray Jesus?

Prayer: "Lord, have mercy on me a sinner and keep me loyal to you! Amen."

May 4th. - Luke 22:24-46.

Reflect: Jesus is THE great example in service and prayer. What does Jesus' serving, self-giving and his earnest prayer in the garden teach you? *Prayer: "Lord Jesus, thank you for all that you went through to save me. Amen."*

May 5th. - Luke 22:47-71.

Reflect: Jesus heals one of those who came to arrest him! Everyone else was consumed by hatred or fear, Jesus alone shows love and compassion! *Prayer: "In times of stress and danger, help me to be more like you, Lord. Amen."*

May 6th. - Luke 23:1-25.

Reflect: In a way we are all like Barabbas! We are all guilty and deserve to be punished. But Jesus was condemned instead of us and we have been set free!

Prayer: "Lord, you took my place and my sin. THANK YOU! Amen."

May 7th. - Luke 23:26-43.

Reflect: Even while he was dying, Jesus reached out to save someone - the criminal crucified beside him. Jesus' death brings salvation to all who turn to him! *Prayer: "Lord Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. Amen."*

May 8th. - Luke 23:44-56.

Reflect: Close your eyes and imagine yourself at the foot of the cross. All is dark for three hours. Jesus cries out and dies. How do you feel? What would

Read the New Testament in a Year

you say? *Prayer: "Lord, may my sin and pride be buried with you in your tomb. Amen."*

May 9th. - Luke 24:1-35.

Reflect: Note the various reactions to meeting the risen Lord Jesus. We too encounter the risen Lord in his Word and in "the breaking of bread" (in Holy Communion). *Prayer: "Risen Lord Jesus, thank you that I too have met you. Amen."*

May 10th. - Luke 24:36-53.

Reflect: Jesus is alive! Jesus has won forgiveness for us! The Scriptures foretold this wonderful news and Jesus has made us witnesses to it (with the Holy Spirit's help.) *Prayer: "Lord Jesus, thank you for the privilege of witnessing about you. Amen."*

May 11th. - John 1:1-28.

Reflect: Because you have received Jesus; because you believe in him, you are God's child. None of this is possible because of our decision or power, but by God's grace alone! *Prayer: "Heavenly Father, thank you for making me your child in Jesus. Amen."*

May 12th. - John 1:29-51.

Reflect: Jesus is the Lamb of God (the sacrifice), who takes away the sin of the world. He takes away YOUR sin! He's someone to follow and someone to tell others about! *Prayer: "Lord Jesus, thank you for taking away my sin! Amen."*

May 13th. - John 2:1-25.

Reflect: Throughout his Gospel John describes Jesus' miracles as "signs". These have deeper significance than expected - they are events which call us to believe in Jesus. *Prayer: "Lord, help me to understand the "signs" and to believe in you. Amen."*

May 14th. - John 3:1-21.

Reflect: God loved the world so much - he loved YOU so much - that he sent Jesus to be our saviour. Believing in Jesus is the only way to receive eternal life. *Prayer: "Heavenly Father, thank you for loving me and for sending Jesus. Amen."*

May 15th. - John 3:22-36.

Reflect: God wants everyone to be saved. He sent Jesus to enable that to happen. If people reject Jesus, they exclude themselves from the salvation he brings! *Prayer: "Lord, you must become greater, and I less. Amen."*

May 16th. - John 4:1-30.

Reflect: To reach out to this Samaritan woman, Jesus overcame social, racial and religious barriers. There's a lesson in this for our witnessing and caring for

others. *Prayer: "Lord Jesus, teach me to be more loving and accepting of others. Amen."*

May 17th. - John 4:31-54.

Reflect: The Samaritan woman's testimony brought her neighbours to Jesus, but they found faith when they themselves got to know Jesus personally. *Prayer: "Lord, help me to point others to you and then get out of the way. Amen."*

May 18th. - John 5:1-29.

Reflect: Jesus acts with the full authority of his Father (Jesus is God come as a human being). To believe in him means to have crossed over from death to life! *Prayer: "Lord Jesus, thank you for the new life I have in you. Amen."*

May 19th. - John 5:30-47.

Reflect: God's Word brings eternal life BECAUSE it testifies about Jesus. Our eternal destiny is determined by our attitude towards Jesus: To believe means to have life! *Prayer: "Lord, help me to believe what your Word says about you. Amen."*

May 20th. - John 6:1-24.

Reflect: Jesus asked Philip about feeding the great crowd to test him. What did Jesus want to teach Philip and the other disciples through this? What did you learn? *Prayer: "Lord Jesus, help me to trust that you can meet any challenge! Amen."*

May 21st. - John 6:25-59.

Reflect: Jesus is the bread of life. When we have him, we will never be spiritually hungry or thirsty again! Jesus promises not to turn away anyone who comes to him. *Prayer: "Lord, thank you that I am safe in your care, now and forever. Amen."*

May 22nd. - John 6:60-71.

Reflect: No one can come to faith in Jesus unless God the Father enables him to. Everything we have as Christians (faith; forgiveness; eternal life), we have by grace! *Prayer: "Lord, by your life-giving grace, increase my faith in you. Amen."*

May 23rd. John 7:1-24.

Reflect: Jesus' brothers did not believe in him. Do you face any opposition or ridicule for your faith from your family or friends? Talk to Jesus about it - he understands! *Prayer: "Lord, help me to witness more effectively to those I'm close to. Amen."*