



Hanging on Every Word Lenten Resource

Monday

- Read John 19:28-30
- When you complete a hard task, how does it make you feel? How do you respond (rest, celebrate, start something else, etc.)?
- What goes through your mind when you consider all that Jesus completed while on earth (See John 21:24-25)
- Say a prayer to God thanking him for completing tasks that we are simply unable to perform. Thank Jesus for the Cross.

Tuesday

- Read Philippians 2:1-11
- What sticks out to you in this passage? Why?
- This is one of the most powerful passages in the New Testament and many believe that verses 5-11 are the lyrics to an early Christian hymn. How do these verses capture the essence of what Jesus did on the cross?
- In this passage, Paul tells us to have the same mind: as Christ. How does this "mind" relate to living a life of simplicity?
- Pray to God and ask him to reveal to you what it means to have the same mind as Christ. Pray that you will be obedient to him in all areas of your life.

Wednesday

- Read Matthew 6:25-34
- How does trusting in God allow us to live a simpler life?
- Richard Foster, the author of *Celebration of Discipline*¹, wrote this prayer regarding simplicity: “May God give you – and me – the courage, the wisdom and the strength always to hold the kingdom of God as the number one priority of our lives. To do so is to live in simplicity.” What impact does the kingdom of God have on your lifestyle, particularly when it comes to the way you spend money?
- Pray to God asking him to overwhelm you with his love so that you will make the kingdom of God your number one priority.

Thursday

- Read 1 John 2:1-17.
- What sticks out to you in this passage? Why?
- It is believed that the writer of the gospel of John is the same author of this letter. This would mean that the writer of this letter was present at the foot of the cross. How does this passage put what Jesus did in perspective?
- What impact does Jesus’ sacrifice have on your relationships with the people in your life (your family, your church family, your co-workers, classmates, etc.)
- Say a simple prayer of thanks to God for Jesus, who is our atoning sacrifice.

Friday

According to the extended forecast from the Weather channel, today and tomorrow will be beautiful spring days. There may be some rain today. Take one of these days (or both) and use them to enjoy God’s creation. Go for a walk. Go to a park. Take a drive down a country road. Be simple. Don’t complicate this. Enjoy the simple beauty of God by doing something simple. May it be a reminder to live more simply so others can simply live. At some point, pray the Lord’s prayer:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory now and forever.
Amen.**

¹ Richard J. Foster, *Celebration of Discipline: The Path To Spiritual Growth* (New York: HarperCollins, 2009)