

ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *October 24-29, 2022*

INTRODUCTION

This week we celebrate Asbury's 100th anniversary! Just as we spent time in worship both looking back and looking towards the future, we'll spend time in our devotionals this week considering the importance of remembering milestones and examining how we can be part of ensuring Asbury continues to speak to future generations the way it's spoken to us.

Monday: Exodus 12:1-30

Celebrations help us to mark milestones and remember the places where God has been faithful. This passage from Exodus records the beginnings of the Passover, which remains an important part of the Jewish culture today in remembering God's deliverance. What celebrations have helped you to remember God's faithfulness in your life? How can celebrations play an important role in the life of a church?

Tuesday

Pastor Eric introduced the "Closing the Gap" initiative in worship. "Closing the Spiritual Gap" is defined as involvement in worship, small groups, service opportunities, giving, and inviting others. How involved have you been in these areas in the past? What has held you back from additional involvement? What positive experiences have you had in each area; and how can reflecting on those spur you to additional involvement in the future?

Wednesday

"Closing the Generational Gap" involves connecting new, younger, and non-religious people to the Asbury community. How did you first get connected to Asbury Church? Is the way you got connected a way that others may get connected? How might you be able to foster that connection point?

Thursday

"Closing the Justice and Kindness Gap" involves building bridges of healing in our city so that the Lehigh Valley looks more like the Kingdom of God. What justice issues are near to your heart? How might Asbury be able to show dignity to others by being involved in those issues?

Friday

"Closing the Opportunity Gap" asks how we can break the cycle of poverty for children in the community. Pastor Eric identified Asbury's primary focus as partnering with Luis A. Ramos Elementary School in the Allentown School District, with emphases on improving their physical spaces, providing instruction, and providing mentoring. Which of these areas might you be best-suited to help with when the time arises? What people were impactful in giving you a better future? How can you be that person for others?

MOVING FORWARD

Some gaps are wider than others. As you take a first step and gain momentum, what are some of the small "gaps" you can work to close? What will be easy about closing those gaps? What will be difficult? How can you keep God as the focal point while seeking to close gaps and make a difference?

