



NO SERMON NOTES THIS WEEK

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ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *Oct. 30 - Nov. 4, 2023*

INTRODUCTION

The All Saints Day message, "Living Letters," remembers those Asbury members who died in the last year who have been "living letters," communicating their message of faith and love. As they made a difference in our lives, we carry on their witness as Christ's "living letters" today.

Monday: John 14:1-4, 27

While we look ahead to the legacy we'll leave, we also mourn the loss of those who have gone before us. Grief is a powerful - and often painful - emotion. Yet in these verses from the book of John, Jesus gives a reminder that there is more to come after this life and that his peace is with us even in the midst of pain. How do you feel Jesus' comfort even while you grieve the loss of someone who has made an impact on your life?

Tuesday: 2 Timothy 1:5

In this letter to Timothy, the author notes that the person the letter is addressed to has a faith that goes back at least three generations (his grandmother Lois, his mother Eunice, and now him). How important was faith in your family when you were growing up? Did the faith of any of your family members leave an impression on you? If not, who was it that made an impact on your faith and how did they help to shape it?

Wednesday: Proverbs 22:1

This verse talks about the value of having a "good name" - being seen favorably and honorably. As you consider the impact you have on others and the legacy you'll leave someday, how important is it to you to have others look upon you favorably?

Thursday: Ecclesiastes 2:21

The author of Ecclesiastes is in deep lament as he tries to find meaning in the world. As he realizes that nothing he's accumulated or experienced in the world carries value in the afterlife, he notes that "a person may labor with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then they must leave all they own to another who has not toiled for it" (Ecclesiastes 2:21, NIV). How can we pass along the knowledge we have of Jesus in a way that allows future generations to not just hear it, but wrestle with it and embrace it as their own?

Friday: John 20:29

The story of "Doubting Thomas" is well-known. Thomas needed to see the scars on Jesus' resurrected body before he believed that Jesus had, indeed, risen from the dead. Jesus tells Thomas "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed" (John 20:29, NIV). We have not seen Jesus, but his story has been passed down through countless generations, reaching back to people who lived and walked with Jesus. How can we continue to tell this life-giving story to future generations?

MOVING FORWARD

As we wrap up a week of devotionals and move into the month of November, which culminates in a celebration of thankfulness, take a moment to give thanks for those people who have moved to their eternal home in the past year but whose legacy is still alive in you. How can you work to keep the things that person instilled in you alive in future generations?