



Team Devotional Guide

Humility-1

You did not choose me; I chose you and appointed you to go and bear much fruit, the kind of fruit that endures. And so the Father will give you what ever you ask of Him in my name.

John 15:16

What is God saying to ME through this Word?

What kind of fruit have you produced?

Prayer Focus: Those who are bearing fruit for Christ

My prayers go out for...

Humility-1

The Face of Death

What happens when we set ourselves aside for Christ? I mean, this idea that we have to die to our self so we can rise as a new creature seems a bit extreme, doesn't it? Extreme? You bet! Nothing lukewarm about Christ! Want to live – then you must die an inward death!

That dying “to self” is a deep inward process of yielding to the will of Christ. Humility is the outward presentation of that person who has died to self. It's kind of like being able to look through your self to Christ. It's like you become a transparent window through which people can see Christ – they don't see you much any longer.

In Humility, we set our self aside – not to degrade ourselves, but so that we empty ourselves of ourselves! Empty – so Christ can fill us with the Joy of the Spirit. We no longer carry around an agenda – we don't have to have our way – we can step aside for others.

What do I need to set aside for this Kairos?





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Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in Spirit; and you will find rest.

Matthew 11:29

What is God saying to ME through this Word?

What have I learned from Christ?

Prayer Focus: Those who struggle with Christ's yoke

My prayers go out for...

Humility-2

Humility-2

Heartbeats

Have you ever listened to a heartbeat? Kind of a funny sound. It's not just a beat...beat...beat... kind of sound. It's more of a dah-dum...dah-dum...dah-dum... kind of sound. Makes you think that the pacing of the beat is made up of two steps. Dah-dum...

The Kairos weekend is sort of like a heartbeat. Maybe it is because Kairos is not about team meetings and logistics. Kairos is a living thing. It has a heartbeat. The weekend has a pace. You might even be able to hear it if you listen closely. Dah-dum...

The Talks are the heartbeat of a Kairos. They act as the pacing of the weekend. And, they have that "dual step" nature of the heartbeat.

As the speaker shares of themselves – becoming vulnerable in the process – they are "pumping out." They are not pumping out blood – but love. They are a Love Pump! Spraying God's love all over the Participants.

Then, the Table Discussions start. The Participants begin to "take in" the message the Holy Spirit is carrying. The taking in is as important as the pumping out. Dah-dum...

The message of the weekend is carried in the Talks. Reflect with me on God's message.

Listen to the heartbeat – Dah-dum... Dah-dum...

FRIDAY TALKS

Choices (lay)

To help the participants to begin to know themselves as unique human beings...

Begin to see themselves as products of past choices.

Move from thinking of themselves as victims of circumstances to considering their own involvement.

Understand that the course of their life will be changed by their choices from here on.

You Are Not Alone (clergy)

God wants us to live in community.

We need both God's Presence and the help of others.

Others are working on their behalf.

Friendship with God (clergy)

God isn't waiting to trap us breaking rules.

God longs for friendship with us.

God's friendship is the most worthwhile of any goal.

The Church (lay)

Present the Church in positive way.

The Church is the Family of God.

The Church is the Body of Christ.

Who is the Church? – We are the Church.

Opening the Door (lay)

Friendship with God is a precious and viable reality.

Ways that friendship is nourished.

Christian Life is joyful and filled with love.

SATURDAY TALKS

Discovery (lay)

Christian life is ongoing journey of discovery

- Learning and growth in friendship with Jesus

- An exciting journey filled with treasures

- Revealed in study, prayer, listening and sharing

Christian Action (lay)

Need to be genuinely concerned for each other

Pass God's love on to others

Introduce others to Jesus

Living in God's love is living in action for God

SUNDAY TALKS

Obstacles to Accepting God's Grace (clergy or lay)

Participants will face difficulties that can distract their ongoing journey with God. Help the participants realize the need for a spiritually centered fellowship to help each other on the journey.

Walking in God's Grace (clergy)

It takes effort to continue to maintain a friendship with God: (Spirituality, Study, and Christian Action)

Hang in There (Weekend Leader)

Christian journey has hills and valleys

Christ changes us into His likeness

Tools for the Journey -Prayer & share groups & Monthly Reunions

- Conduct P & S model

- Conduct Participant Family Prayer Circle



Team Devotional Guide

Humility-3

Humility-3

I urge you, then – I who am a prisoner because I serve the Lord: live a life that measures up to the standard God set when He called you.

Ephesians 4:1

What is God saying to ME through this Word?

What kind of progress am I making in measuring up to God's standard?

Prayer Focus: Those who are prisoners because they serve Christ

My prayers go out for...

Inspiring to Excellence

Pride is a funny thing. We know that a prideful spirit is a sin, but it's "funny" how pride works – how pride gets in the way of the Spirit.

The talks that are given on the Kairos weekend all blend together to form one message. So, no talk stands by itself. It relies on the message of the talks that come before it, and it lays foundation for the talks that come after it.

We ask the persons who give the talks to be obedient to the talk's outline. They must make sure that they are good stewards of the talk. They must share how their journey gives evidence to the truth found in the talk. And they must do this in a way where they make themselves vulnerable. Vulnerable – to the Holy Spirit, the team, and the residents.

We ask every speaker to realize that the team "owns" the talk, and that the speaker is accountable to the team for their portion of the larger "Talk". So, every talk must be heard and reviewed by team members. This review is often called a "critique".

Rather than "critiquing" a talk, think of this review as a chance to inspire others to excellence. Let the spirit of those reviewing the talk be one that will lift up the speaker and encourage them even as you lovingly correct problems or suggest improvements.

Let the speaker's approach the talk reviews not with that troublesome, prideful spirit, but with humility. The speaker should earnestly listen and respond to the reviewer's suggestions which are offered in love.

Inspire others to excellence? Wouldn't our world be a better place if we lived to inspire rather than to critique?



And because of God's gracious gift to me, I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you should. Instead, be modest in your thinking, and judge yourself according to the amount of faith that God has given you.

Romans 12:3

What is God saying to ME through this Word?

How can we help people entrapped in pride?

Prayer Focus: Christians battling with pride

My prayers go out for...

Letting Go!

Oh, how I struggle with pride. No, no – not the big chest, inflated ego kind of pride. And not the “isn't it OK to be proud of my son” kind of pride. My struggle is that I start believing that things are going well because of me! It doesn't take too long, and before you know it my thoughts are on what a good job I'm doing. God gets pushed aside so I can take credit. I start out bowed before God, but before long, it's about me.

Pride is a subtle thing. It creeps into your heart – just a little. It won't bother anything. And left there, it begins to grow – not too fast or else it would be noticed. No, slow and steady – that's the way pride works. It takes tip toes in. Then, before you realize it, it flares up – me, me, me, my, my, my, I, I, I.

Pride can be a problem when it comes to our dress code on a Kairos. We are not to do anything that brings attention or glory to ourselves. And yet, for some, our clothing yells out look at me! What's wrong with nice clothes? I don't see a problem. This is overreacting.

No – this is pride speaking. Shake pride out for this Kairos. Purge yourself of its self focused hold on you. Our brothers or sisters in prison can easily be distracted by the things of this world. Don't let overly nice clothing distinguish you or set you apart. Don't let your choices become the source for a resident to covet your stuff! Don't let your pride become a source of sin for someone else!

Clothing Guidelines

- No Logos on shirts
- No T-Shirts – Must have collars
- No shorts
- No tight fitting clothing
- No short skirts
- No low cut/revealing blouses
- No excessive makeup
- No outrageous haircuts
- No overdone jewelry



So then, we must always aim at those things that bring peace and that help strengthen one another.

Romans 14:19

What is God saying to ME through this Word?

When have I chosen to help strengthen someone even though it wasn't what I wanted?

Prayer Focus: Persons who set their desires aside for Christ

My prayers go out for...

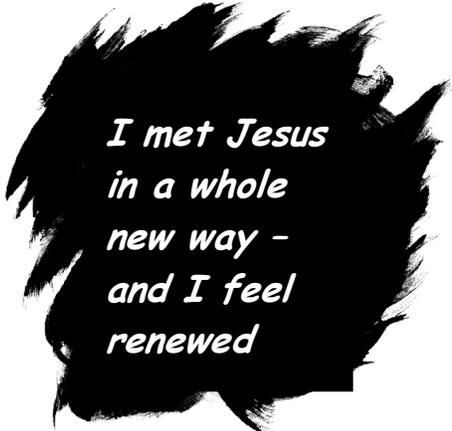
What Makes You Strong

Have you ever felt weak? I mean, like you didn't have enough to keep going. Felt like giving up? Overwhelmed? It's OK, you're among friends and family. We won't hurt you.

It's hard to do, isn't it? Talk about your weakness, that is. We just don't do that. We need to be strong.

The last shall be first. The weak shall be strong. God's way. Yep. God says His world is not like our world. His world is background. We don't need to be strong. We need to acknowledge that we are weak! We need to become vulnerable in our spirit As we humbly acknowledge that we are weak – that we are nothing without Christ.

We are nothing without Christ. And with Him, we are everything! We are strong not because of us – but because of Jesus.



***I met Jesus
in a whole
new way -
and I feel
renewed***