

Unit 2.4 Devotions- A People Scattered, October 17-23, 2021

DAY 01: GENESIS 9:18-29

Noah exited the ark as the father of a new humanity and the head of a new covenant with God. But Noah was a sinner. Here, he got drunk and naked. His father's hopes of Noah being the one who would undo the curse (Gen. 5:29) would not come to pass. The promise of Genesis 3:15 would have to wait. Noah teaches us that past success does not guarantee future obedience. We are all just one day away from failure. Don't trust in your former obedience; rather, lean on God's grace for the strength to obey each day.

IN WHAT AREA OF YOUR LIFE HAVE YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN?

HOW HAS OVERCONFIDENCE LED TO MISTAKES IN YOUR LIFE?

HOW CAN YOU SEE EACH DAY AS A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO GROW AND OBEY JESUS?

DAY 02: GENESIS 10:32-11:4

HOW ARE YOU TEMPTED TO LIVE FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR OWN GLORY?

WHAT ARE SOME AREAS WHERE YOU ARE MOTIVATED MORE BY PRIDE THAN WORSHIP?

HOW CAN YOU PURSUE EXCELLENCE WITHOUT PURSUING MAN'S PRAISE?

When we read the story of Babel, it is easy to see the people's folly. But we shouldn't be so quick to judge. Modern people are not immune to the temptation to make a name for themselves instead of living for the glory of God. We see it every day. Our ambition is often disproportionate to our God-given place in the world. Even in Christian ministries and churches, you will be tempted to make much of yourself. We want the glory that only belongs to God. God is gracious to intervene in our prideful plans and redirect our lives onto a path to make His name great.

DAY 03: GENESIS 11:5-9

When we are determined to rebel and go our own way, it always leads to self-destruction. When God intervenes, we experience His mercy. If not for God's grace, we would all continue down the path of self-glory. Thankfully, we don't have to stay on that path. God sends us out on a better mission that leads to life and joy. Just as He scattered the people in Genesis, God calls us to take His message to the ends of the earth. There's no greater mission. Live for God's glory today.

WHAT HAS GOD USED TO REDIRECT YOUR PATH?
HOW HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED THE GRACE OF GOD'S DISCIPLINE?
HOW CAN YOU LIVE FOR GOD'S MISSION IN THIS SEASON OF YOUR LIFE?
DAY 04: ISAIAH 65:1-2 HOW HAS FOLLOWING YOUR HEART BACKFIRED IN YOUR LIFE?
HOW CAN OUR HEARTS BE CHANGED TO FOLLOW GOD'S HEART?
WHAT MIGHT IT LOOK LIKE TO RESPOND TO GOD'S OUTSTRETCHED ARMS?
From Moana to Frozen, the cultural message to follow your heart is all-consuming. But that is not the message we find in the Bible. Israel walked "in a way that is not good" (65:2) because they were "following their own devices" (65:2). Our hearts and minds often lead us down a path of sin. We need to be "transformed by the renewing of [our minds]" (Rom. 12:2). This is an uphill battle, but it is the path we must choose if we ar going to live in the will of God.
DAY 05: ACTS 2:1-24 At Babel, God confused the languages, but at Pentecost, God brought clarity in the midst of many languages. At Babel, people gathered to exalt their own name, but at Pentecost, the church exalted Jesus' name. God's purposes for humanity were restor through the gospel. Jesus has overcome the self-glorifying evil of Babel and made us one people with one new mission—to live for God's glory through the Great
Commission. WHAT DOES PENTECOST TEACH US ABOUT WHAT GOD CAN DO WHEN HIS PEOPLE COME TOGETHER FOR HIS NAME?
WHO IN YOUR LIFE STILL NEEDS TO "CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD" TO BE SAVED (2:21)?
HOW DO THE STORIES OF BABEL AND ACTS 2:23-24 GIVE YOU CONFIDENCE THAT GOD'S PURPOSES WILL SUCCEED?