

02-20-22 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Luke wants us to see that faith in Christ is far more than giving cognitive assent to doctrines. Rather, this faith is a way of life, a way that is contrary to our own inclinations. To answer hurt with forgiveness is plausible only because the Christ is our strength.”

- Charles Bugg



Genesis 45:3-11, 15 † Luke 6:27-38

Questions for Reflection —

- What does it look like for you to embody the “Golden Rule” in your daily life? In what ways do you struggle to do so? What would it look like for us as a congregation to embody the “Golden Rule” in our interactions with one another and in our decision making? What are the implications of the “Golden Rule” for our programs and ministries beyond the walls of the church?

- In what circumstances and/or to which people do you tend to react with judgment and condemnation? What might it look like for you instead to be a channel of God’s compassion, grace, and mercy in such circumstances and/or towards those people? What will help you to do so? How can we as a congregation extend God’s compassion, grace, and mercy to counteract the hatred, violence, and intolerance that permeate our society?

- What relationship or situations in your life are in need of reconciliation, healing, and restoration? With whom in your life do you regularly find yourself in conflict of some sort? What might it look like for you to “love your enemies” in your school or workplace? In your neighborhood/community? Where in our congregation do you see a need for reconciliation, healing and restoration? What can you do to help that happen?

Daily Household Prayer

God of abundant mercy, You alone can turn evil into good, sorrow into rejoicing, and death into everlasting life. Teach us Your way of grace – to meet hatred with kindness, to answer curses with blessing, to love without holding back, to give without thought of return; all in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.