

01-28-24 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“God calls us to value Christian community above our own desires and actions; we then choose to live in such a way that we always build up one another.”

- Scot P. McClymont



1 Corinthians 8:1, 4, 7-13 † Mark 1:21-28

Questions for Reflection —

- How do you react to the notion of authority? What are the competing sources of authority in your life? What does it mean to give precedence to the authority of God and God's Word? In what ways do you resist God's authority? What do you need in order to allow God to lead you and guide you in all aspects of your life? What does it look like for Jesus to be Lord of your life?

- In what ways do you see Christian care and concern manifest in the life of our congregation? Have you ever refrained from doing or saying something out of consideration and care for a sibling in Christ who holds differing views from you? What does it mean for us to love and support one another across various differences as we share life together in this community of faith? What might you contribute to building our congregation's sense of community?

- How do you personally live your life according to the principles of love? In what ways do your words and actions in your daily life serve as a conduit of God's love? In what aspects of your life might you adjust your words or actions out of care and compassion for your neighbor? What does it mean to put the rights and needs of others before your own? What will help you put aside self-interest in order to meet the needs of others, especially of people who are outside your immediate circle of family and friends?

Daily Household Prayer

Dear God, open our ears to hear what you are saying to us today.
Open our eyes, to see where Jesus' healing love is needed in our world.
Open our hands, to do your work where we are needed.
Open our lips, to bring comfort, joy, and laughter to your people.
Open our minds, to hear new truths about how you work in our world.
Open our hearts, to love you, our neighbors, and ourselves as you love us. Amen.