

DAILY BREAD

FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 20, 2010

This week's assigned reading: Luke, chapters 9 and 10.

Comments on the assigned reading:

- The Feeding of the Five Thousand (9:10-17) is one of the few stories that appears in all four Gospels. The words "taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. And all ate and were filled" remind us of holy communion.
- Starting at 9:51, we have a special section that is unique only to Luke. Some well known stories are found in this section, such as The Good Samaritan and The Prodigal Son. This section continues all the way to 18:15.
- In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, one needs to remember that Samaritans were enemies of Jews, and thus the least expected to help out a Jew in need.

Questions for reflection and discussion:

1. Jesus asked his disciples, Who do you think I am? (9:18-20) If someone were to ask you that question today, how would you respond in terms understandable to people today?
2. Jesus told his followers "to deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me". What does that mean to you in your journey of faith?
3. In the story of Jesus' visit of Mary and Martha, Jesus said that Martha was "worried and distracted by many things; there was need of only one thing." What is that "one thing" most needed in your life? How do you live in a way that reflects that priority?

Suggestions for prayer:

- For the residents of the Golden Living Center (formerly the Lake Ridge Nursing Home), and for all persons living and working in care centers. We particularly remember those members of our congregation living in one of those settings: Barb Arndt, Rollie Berg, Phyllis Johnson, and Arlene and David Lofstedt.
- Peace in the world, especially in the Middle East and South Central Asia.
- Give thanks for the beauty and wonder of God's creation, and pray that it would be protected and preserved given all of the threats to the environment.

For the blog conversation on these readings, go to:

<http://web.me.com/ronald.peterson1/FAITHnrFUTURE/Blog/Blog.html>