

DAILY BREAD

FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 4, 2010

This week's assigned reading: Luke, chapters 13 and 14.

Comments on the assigned reading:

- In Luke 13:1-9, we read of the call to repentance. Repentance is an important theme in Luke and Acts. In the Parable of the Barren Fig Tree, we learn that we are given one more chance to repent and bear the fruit of repentance, or we will be cut down like a barren fig tree. Compare Luke 3:7-14.
- In the 14th chapter we have two stories with the theme of banquets and hospitality. This is another important theme in Luke's Gospel. We find this theme in the Old Testament as well (for example, see Isaiah 55:1-5). The banquet table is a Biblical image of the kingdom of God.

For more information about the Gospel of Luke, go to the website www.enterthebible.org.

Questions for reflection and discussion:

- If examples of the fruits of repentance are identified by John the Baptist in Luke 3:7-14, what would be the fruits of repentance for you and all of us today?
- Jesus taught that the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed? In what ways do you see mustard seeds growing today? By the same token, were do you see evidence of yeast quietly at work to raise the loaf as signs of the kingdom?
- Reflect on how important food and the sharing of food are in our ministry. What are some of the ways in which we share food at Galilee? In what way is this activity a sign of the kingdom of God?

Suggestions for prayer:

- Pray for the family and friends of June Wendt, who died on June 27 and whose funeral was on July 2.
- As we celebrate our nation's independence on the 4th of July, pray for the U.S.A., that in these turbulent times we may have peace and be governed with justice for all.
- Pray for Galilee's Worship and Music Team which meets on Monday. We are grateful for their good work in planning the worship and music for our Sunday services.
- For those going to the congregational retreat this coming weekend at Bay Lake Camp, pray that they have a delightful time in a beautiful natural setting, as well as deepen some of the relationships within the congregation.

For the blog conversation on these readings, go to:

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