

*Today:*  
**February 15, 2015**

**Scripture Focus:** Luke 9

**9** One day Jesus called together his twelve disciples and gave them power and authority to cast out all demons and to heal all diseases. <sup>2</sup> Then he sent them out to tell everyone about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick. <sup>3</sup> “Take nothing for your journey,” he instructed them. “Don’t take a walking stick, a traveler’s bag, food, money, or even a change of clothes. <sup>4</sup> Wherever you go, stay in the same house until you leave town. <sup>5</sup> And if a town refuses to welcome you, shake its dust from your feet as you leave to show that you have abandoned those people to their fate.” <sup>6</sup> So they began their circuit of the villages, preaching the Good News and healing the sick.

<sup>51</sup> As the time drew near for him to ascend to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> He sent messengers ahead to a Samaritan village to prepare for his arrival. <sup>53</sup> But the people of the village did not welcome Jesus because he was on his way to Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When James and John saw this, they said to Jesus, “Lord, should we call down fire from heaven to burn them up?” <sup>55</sup> But Jesus turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> So they went on to another village.

*(Luke 9:1-6, 51-56 New Living Translation)*

**Notes from Worship:**

How did God catch your attention? To what is God calling you this week?

**Questions for Discussion:**

- What’s the closest you ever came to a journey like these disciples’, depending only on provisions discovered or given along the way?
- Have you ever doggedly continued on toward a destination of yours, despite significant opposition?
- How much do you identify with James and John’s reactions to the people of the Samaritan village?

***This Week:***  
**February 16-21**

**Scripture Readings:**

<b>Monday</b> 2/16	<b>Tuesday</b> 2/17	<b>Wednesday</b> 2/18	<b>Thursday</b> 2/19	<b>Friday</b> 2/20	<b>Saturday</b> 2/21
1 Kings 15: 1-24; 2 Chron. 13-16	1 Kings 15:25 – 16:34; 2 Chron. 17	1 Kings 17-19	1 Kings 20-21	1 Kings 22; 2 Chron. 18-20	2 Kings 1-4

**Questions for Reflection:**

These questions are meant to help get you thinking about the readings for each day. Feel free to also use this space to jot down other questions and insights gleaned from your reading.

**Monday**

What do you see in common about the kings described in these chapters?

**Tuesday**

Were any of the kings described in these chapters even close to living up to God's ideal for kingship? How had they fallen short of God's ideals?

**Wednesday**

What catches your attention in these stories about the prophet Elijah?

**Thursday**

How much courage would it have taken to be a prophet during the time described in these chapters?

**Friday**

What kind of a king was Jehoshaphat?

**Saturday**

What strikes you about the prophet Elisha? How is he similar to Elijah? How is he different?

**Taking Scripture to Heart:**

As we continue focusing on the life and teachings of Jesus, our memory text is **Matthew 5:43-48**. Let these verses dwell within you, to help you focus on Jesus Christ, the center of our faith.

***Next Sunday: February 22, 2015***

**Theme:** Walking with Jesus through Holy Week – Jesus' Passover with his disciples

**Scripture Focus:** *Mark 14:12-31*