

## **DAY TWENTY ONE: "REJOICE IN PERSECUTIONS"**

### **Matthew 5: 10-11**

1. What should make us rejoice in persecutions?
2. Have people insulted or spoken evil of you because of Jesus?
3. How did you feel?
4. Who else has been treated this way?

### **John 15:18-23**

1. How should we expect to be treated?
2. Why does the world hate us?
3. What makes people feel guilty when they see us become disciples?

### **Acts 4: 13-22**

1. What made Peter and John so bold?
2. Has anyone tried to stop you from teaching, speaking or worshipping Jesus?
3. How have you responded?

### **Acts 5: 17-29**

1. Jesus was persecuted out of envy ( Mark 15:10);the apostles were arrested out of jealousy.
2. Why will we be persecuted or slandered?
3. By whom?
4. What was the apostles' reply when they were told to stop?

### **Acts 5: 40-42**

1. What made the apostles happy?

**APPLICATION: *Let vs. 42 be your theme today and every day .***

## **DAY TWENTY TWO: "GIVING LIVING "**

### **John 13:1-17**

1. How did Jesus show the full extent of His love?
2. What was He carrying trying to teach His disciples?
3. How can we obey vs. 17?
4. Give specific examples.

### **Acts 9:36-42**

1. Why was Dorcas so loved by everyone?
2. Who were her " special friends?"
3. Why do you think she did so much for them?

4. If you died today, what would you be remembered for?
5. What can we learn from the Dorcas' life?

**Philippians 2:19-24**

1. What made Timothy different from the others?
2. What shows a genuine interest in the welfare of the others?
3. How can you be more like Timothy?

**APPLICATION:** *Think of a practical way to show another disciple that you truly care. Do it today.*

**DAY TWENTY THREE: "CONFESING SIN"**

**Psalm 32: 1-7**

1. How do we feel when we are hiding /not confessing our sins?
2. Have you felt this way since your baptism?
3. Are there any sins you have been afraid to confess?

**Proverbs 28:13**

1. Can we conceal our sins from God?
2. Who do we need to confess our sins to besides God?
3. What effect will unconfessed sin have in our life?

**Luke 8:17**

1. Why is it foolish to try to keep our sins hidden?

**Psalm 66:18-19**

1. What else happens if we conceal or cherish our sin?

**APPLICATION:** *Take some time to think about any sins- attitudes, action, thoughts- that are troubling you because you haven't shared them . Write them down and make sure you talk about them even today .*

**DAY TWENTY FOUR: "FAMILY PRESSURE"**

**Mark 3: 20-21**

1. Why do you think Jesus' family was upset with Him?
2. Has anyone in your family tried to stop you from serving God because they think you are hurting yourself?
3. What would have happened if Jesus had agreed with them?

**John 7: 1-9**

1. What did Jesus' own brothers think about Him?
2. Why didn't Jesus do what His family wanted?

**Matthew 10: 37-39**

1. List some examples of ways we can "love" our families more than we listen to Jesus.
2. If someone looked at your life, who would they say you loved the most?

**APPLICATION: Discuss any pressures you are feeling about family expectations with a strong disciple. Are there any changes you need to make?**

**DAY TWENTY FIVE: "□ BEING OPEN "**

**1 John 15:15**

1. What did Jesus share with His disciples?
2. Are you this kind of a friend to other Christians?
3. Do they really know all about your life?

**2 Corinthians 6:11-13**

1. What does it mean to speak freely?
2. Are you opening your heart to others?
3. What are some of the feeling you aren't expressing to anyone?

**Proverbs 20:5**

1. Are you helping others to disciple you by being open or does someone have to "draw you out" by asking many questions?

**APPLICATION: Spend some time today writing down some things with another christian this week. Be open.**

**DAY TWENTY SIX: "□ DEALING WITH DOUBTS"**

**Matthew 11: 1-6**

1. After all that John the Baptist knew about Jesus, why do you think he began having doubts?
2. What did John do to deal with his doubts?
3. What should you do when doubts enter your mind?

**Matthew 18:16-17**

Does this surprise you? Read on and see what Jesus told His doubting disciples to do.

**1Corinthians 15: 11-14**

1. What were the Christians in Corinth doubting? They had believed at first, but later some began to doubt.
2. What are some of the teachings you have doubted after believing?

**Luke 24:36-45**

1. Where did you think doubts come from?
2. How did Jesus help them to find faith?

**APPLICATION:** *Write briefly how you can overcome doubts through openness, the word of God, prayer and obedience.*

**DAY TWENTY SEVEN: "▯ LEARNING TO BE LOYAL"**

First, what does loyalty mean to buy?

**1 Corinthians 13: 4-7**

1. Write out this passage substituting your name in place of the word love. Now read through it again, thinking about some specific relationships that you have.
2. What do you see about yourself that needs to change?

**Ephesians 4:29**

1. What kind of talk is harmful to others?
2. Have you been involved in a talk that is unkind, slanders or mocking?

**1 Thessalonians 5: 12-15**

1. Who is "over you in the Lord?"
2. Is this based on how they live?
3. Write some names of Christians who work hard among you. Do you respect them from your heart?
4. What is your attitude towards Christians who are weak or slow to learn?

**APPLICATION:** *Write a note of appreciation to someone you respect, who is over you in the Lord and also to someone who needs patient encouragement.*

**DAY TWENTY EIGHT: "▯ DISPUTABLE MATTERS "**

**Rom. 14: 1-8**

1. What are some disputable matters among Christians today ?(dress, taste in music , food and drink).
2. What should your attitude be towards those who see these things differently?

**Romans 14:16-23**

1. What does God care about the most?
2. Are you doing anything that could cause others to stumble?
3. What does vs. 23 mean?
4. Do you feel good about the way you are living now?

**1 Timothy 2:9-10, 1 Peter 3: 3-5**

1. What makes a woman beautiful to God?
2. In your own words, write what you think these passages are teaching about clothing and about godliness.

**Matthew 11:18-19**

1. Why did the people criticize Jesus and John the Baptist?
2. Why do you think they were so different yet both were pleasing to God?

**APPLICATION:** *Do you have questions about what is right and wrong for a Christian? Find out from a mature disciple whether these things are disputable matters and come to your own decisions .*

**DAY TWENTY NINE: "☐ JESUS IS COMING SOON! "**

- 2 Peter 3:3-14**
1. Why do some people we scoff (mock) at the promise of Christ's return?
  2. What will the "day of the Lord" be like?
  3. Are you living as though Jesus could come back today?

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

- Compare this passage to 2 Peter 3:7 &10. Will there be any "second chance" for those who are not ready to meet the Lord?
2. Why will this day be like a "thief in the night?"
  3. What does it mean to be alert and self-controlled?

**2 Timothy 4:6-8**

1. How does Paul feel about facing the Lord on judgment day?
2. Why is living for Jesus like fighting the good fight, finishing the race and keeping the faith?
3. What kind of effort does it take to be this way to the end?

**APPLICATION:** *Live each day like it is your last .*

**DAY THIRTY: "☐ JOINED TOGETHER IN LOVE "**

**Psalm 133:1-3**

1. What is unity and why is it so important to have it in the church?

**Ephesians 4:1-3**

1. Explain vs 2 in your own words. What happens when we act the opposite of this?
2. Why does it take every effort to keep unity?

**Philippians 2:1-5**

1. What does this mean to be one in spirit and purpose?
2. How can you consider others better than yourself?
3. Whose interests have you been looking out for besides your own? What is the attitude of Jesus? Is yours the same?

**Matthew 18:15-17/ 5:23-24**

1. How does Jesus tell us to resolve conflicts and disagreements with one another?
2. Who should go to whom first?
3. Is there anyone in the church with whom you need to go and settle a problem?

**APPLICATION:** *Think about your relationship today. Pray to be unified with all your brothers and sisters and reach out to and spend time with those you do not love as Jesus would .*