

PRACTICE WHAT'S BEEN PREACHED

In our current sermon series, "Lifeline: Devoted to Prayer," we are growing our faith by looking at prayer as a two-way conversation with God. Meaning, prayer is both listening to what God says (by reading His Word and listening to/meditating on His Word); and prayer is communicating back to God through words we pray.

Below is a practical daily guide for practicing this two-way conversation. Please give it a try; it has the potential to bring you life!

1. **PAUSE:** Spend a few moments in silence. Then, open your heart, asking the Holy Spirit to direct your reading of the Bible.
2. **READ:** Read the scripture passage for the day (see below). Note any words, phrases, or verses you sense God is speaking to you about.

Monday, Jan. 11: Luke 1
Tuesday, Jan. 12: Luke 2
Wednesday, Jan. 13: Luke 3
Thursday, Jan. 14: Luke 4
Friday, Jan. 15: Luke 5

3. **WRITE:** Turn to a fresh page (notepad or journal), putting the date and scripture reference across the top. Then, write out the verse or verses to which the Holy Spirit has especially drawn your attention.

4. **OBSERVE:** Write down any observations of what you see from the passage itself, as well as any observations about the surrounding context.

5. **LISTEN:** Ask God how this passage applies to your life today; then, quietly listen to what He says. As you listen, slowly roll the passage over and over in your mind. Write down what next step God is calling you to (something you need to do, or say, or in some way be obedient).

6. **PRAY:** Write out a brief prayer using your own words, based on what you have written.

