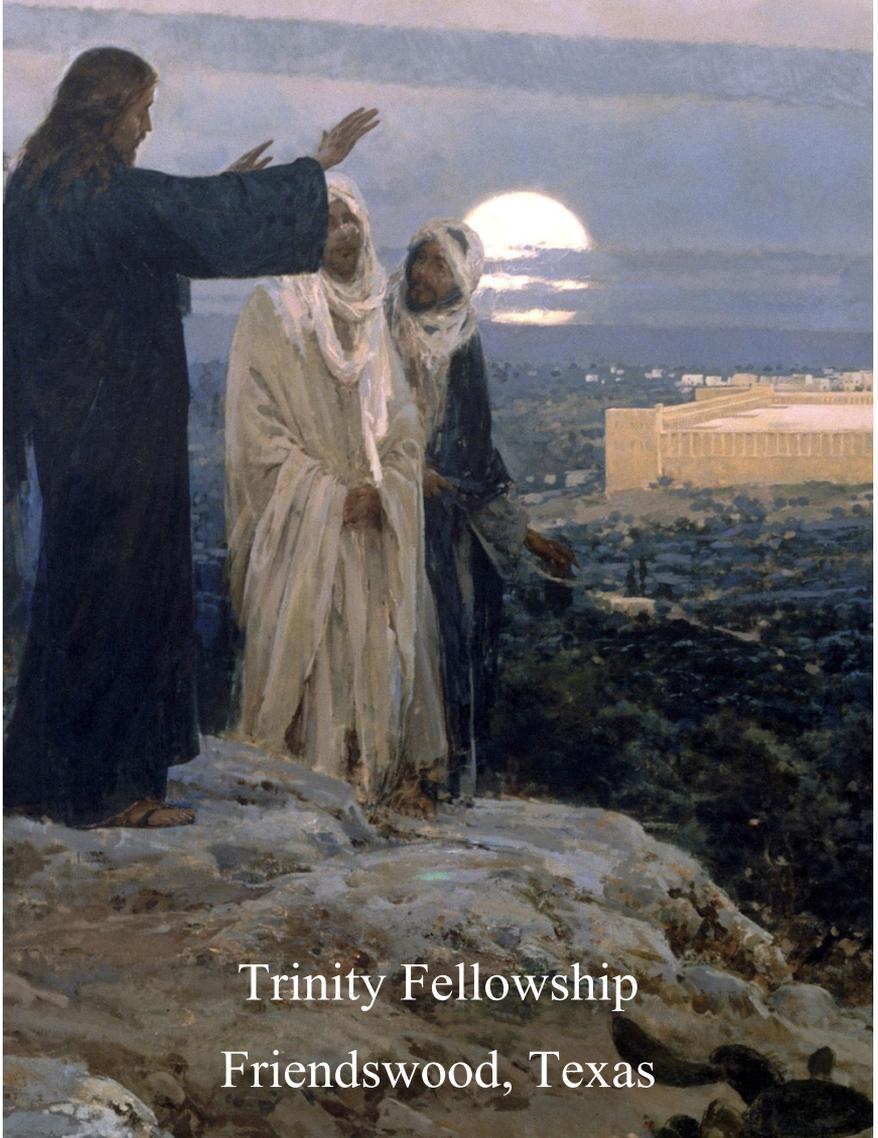


The Journey to Jerusalem
A Devotional Study in Luke 11-13
Early Fall, 2019



Trinity Fellowship
Friendswood, Texas

Cover: detail from *The Lament over Jerusalem*, Enrique Simonet -
Flevit super illam – 1892

Gracious Father Luke 11:1-13

Preaching Date: September 1, 2019

Worship: Good, Good Father

Key Sentence:

God is a gracious father who gives us what we need.

Outline:

I. Our father is able (Luke 11:1-4)

II. Our father is willing (Luke 11:5-8)

III. Our father is ready (Luke 11:9-13)

I suddenly saw in my mind's eye a little girl in pigtails flying down a vast marble corridor. Tears flooded her eyes and overflowed, leaving white streaks on her dirty face. Blood trickled from her skinned leg, making a path in the dirt and gravel imbedded in her knee and shin. She was calling for her daddy, sobbing as she ran.

It was a long corridor. At the end, two huge gold doors glistened in the sunlight which filtered through beveled cathedral windows. On either side of the imposing doors stood two magnificently dressed guards holding huge spears and blocking the entrance to the room beyond. Undaunted the little girl ran straight toward the doors, still crying "Abba" She never broke her stride, for as she neared the doors the guards flung them open and heralded her arrival: The daughter of the King! The daughter of the King!

Court was in session. The cherubim and seraphim cried "Holy, holy, holy!" and the elders sat on their thrones, dressed in white, talking with the King of Kings. But none of this slowed down his daughter. Oblivious to everything that was going on about her, she ran up the steps leading to the throne, and she catapulted herself into the king's arms. She was home and wrapped in the arms of his everlasting love. He reached up, and with one finger gently wiped away her tears. Then he tenderly examined her cut, and said "Now, now, tell your Father all about it."

Kay Arthur, writing in *What My Parents Did Right*

Preaching Date: September 1, 2019

This week's passage: Luke 11:1-13

Lesson 1

Read the Scripture passage for the week. Underline the thoughts that stand out to you.

Write out one verse that stands out to you.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

Write down a couple of observations you make as you consider the whole passage. Consider the important events, people and teachings.

What connects this passage to God's Big Story of redemption and rescue?

Write down one or two personal applications from this passage. Is there a way that this passage connects with your life or resonates with your heart?

Pray God's word back to Him. Give Him thanks for the truths that He has revealed in this passage.

Preaching Date: September 1, 2019
This week's passage: Luke 11:1-13
Lesson 2

Read the Scripture passage for the week. Mark all the references to God in a distinctive way.

Write out one verse that stands out to you. This can be the same verse or a different verse than Day 1.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

Write down a couple more observations as you consider the main passage. Is there something that stands out to you about God (Father, Son or Spirit) from this portion of Scripture?

How does this passage display the character and plans of God?

Write down one or two personal applications from this passage. What did you learn about God that could impact the way you think about Him or respond to Him?

Pray God's word back to Him. Talk to God about what you have learned and how you desire to respond.

Preaching Date: September 1, 2019
This week's passage: Luke 11:1-13
Lesson 3

Read the Scripture passage for the week once again. Mark repeated words or phrases and thoughts that seem important to Luke.

Write out the verse that stands out to you. This can be the same verse or a different verse from Day 1 and 2.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

Write down one or two more observations as you consider the passage a final time. If you like, use an English or Greek dictionary, a concordance or the cross references in your Bible to further explore interesting words or phrases.

What thoughts from this passage lead you toward wonder and worship?

Write down one or two personal applications from this passage. How do Luke's key thoughts impact your thinking? How would you like them to impact your words, your actions, and your attitudes?

Pray God's word back to Him. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your responses to the truths you have been considering this week.

One Greater is Here Luke 11:14-32

Preaching Date: September 8, 2019

Worship: Our God is Greater

Key Sentence: We have great confidence in the greatness of Jesus

Outline:

Introduction (Luke 11:14-16)

I. He overcomes great evil (Luke 11:17-22)

II. He offers great purpose (Luke 11:23-28)

III. He provides great assurance (Luke 11:29-32)

Luke 11:15 *But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons,"*

Unbelief loves to undermine clear evidence of God's love and power, in this case in the form of slander. "But some of them said, 'By Beelzebub, the prince of demons, he is driving out demons'" (Luke 11:15). Ugly lies! "Beelzebub" had become in Hebrew culture an alternative name for Satan. In Ugaritic texts the name Beezeboul meant "Baal the prince." But in the Old Testament (2 Kings 1:2, 3, 6, 16) the name is rendered "Baal-Zebub" (niv), meaning "Lord of the flies." It was a deliberate distortion to deprecate the pagan god. The Septuagint translates this, "Baal, the fly-God". "Beelzebub" was, and is, a fitting name for Satan, but a monstrous slander when used for Christ. The hearts of the Pharisees and scribes were so hard that they said in essence, "Yes, Jesus has done a miracle, but only because he is in league with Satan, the Lord of the flies, the God of dung and carrion." It was a calculated blasphemy of immense perversity.

Preaching the Word – Luke, Volume I: That You May Know the Truth, by R. Kent Hughes

Preaching Date: September 8, 2019
This week's passage: Luke 11:14-32
Lesson 1

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Write out one verse that stands out to you.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

Write down a couple of observations you make as you consider the whole passage. Consider the important events, people and teachings.

What connects this passage to God's Big Story of redemption and rescue?

Write down one or two personal applications from this passage. Is there a way that this passage connects with your life or resonates with your heart?

Pray God's word back to Him. Give Him thanks for the truths that He has revealed in this passage.

Preaching Date: September 8, 2019

This week's passage: Luke 11:14-32

Lesson 2

Read the Scripture passage for the week. Mark all the references to God in a distinctive way.

Write out one verse that stands out to you. This can be the same verse or a different verse than Day 1.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

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Write down one or two personal applications from this passage.
What did you learn about God that could impact the way you think about Him or respond to Him?

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Preaching Date: September 8, 2019
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Write out the verse that stands out to you. This can be the same verse or a different verse from Day 1 and 2.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

Write down one or two more observations as you consider the passage a final time. If you like, use an English or Greek dictionary, a concordance or the cross references in your Bible to further explore interesting words or phrases.

What thoughts from this passage lead you toward wonder and worship?

Write down one or two personal applications from this passage. How do Luke's key thoughts impact your thinking? How would you like them to impact your words, your actions, and your attitudes?

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Inside Out

Luke 11:33-54

Preaching Date: September 15, 2019

Worship: Light of the World

Key Sentence: Does my heart match my words and behavior?

Outline:

I. Light, not darkness (Luke 11:33-36)

II. Reality, not pretense (Luke 11:37-44)

III. Faith, not legalism (Luke 11:45-54)

Do you like to get your car washed? I usually don't, except in the spring, when the live oak trees begin their cycle. First leaves, then pollen, then flowers fall on my car. And eventually it gets so bad I've got to wash it. And it's really nice to get it looking nice.

On the other hand, as many of you know, I am not a mechanic. I try to at least keep track of maintenance, but it's really not my thing. And lately my car has started to burn some oil, so I really do need to keep on top of it.

Now when you put these two things together, you have a problem, or at least, I have a problem. Somehow my brain gets confused, and I begin to think that when I've washed the car, I've taken care of it. I mean haven't you ever had the feeling that it runs better when it's clean? So I would forget to put oil in my cars. And this got so bad a couple of times that I actually started to hear the rods knocking in the engine. The car was clean on the outside – but it was two quarts low on the inside.

Now the question I want to ask you today is this: Have you ever felt that way emotionally and spiritually? That you were doing fine on the outside, but you were a couple of quarts low on the inside.

Preaching Date: September 15, 2019
This week's passage: Luke 11:33-54
Lesson 1

Read the Scripture passage for the week. Underline the thoughts that stand out to you.

Write out one verse that stands out to you.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

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What connects this passage to God's Big Story of redemption and rescue?

Write down one or two personal applications from this passage. Is there a way that this passage connects with your life or resonates with your heart?

Pray God's word back to Him. Give Him thanks for the truths that He has revealed in this passage.

Preaching Date: September 15, 2019
This week's passage: Luke 11:33-54
Lesson 2

Read the Scripture passage for the week. Mark all the references to God in a distinctive way.

Write out one verse that stands out to you. This can be the same verse or a different verse than Day 1.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

Write down a couple more observations as you consider the main passage. Is there something that stands out to you about God (Father, Son or Spirit) from this portion of Scripture?

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Write down one or two personal applications from this passage.
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Preaching Date: September 15, 2019
This week's passage: Luke 11:33-54
Lesson 3

Read the Scripture passage for the week once again. Mark repeated words or phrases and thoughts that seem important to Luke.

Write out the verse that stands out to you. This can be the same verse or a different verse from Day 1 and 2.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

Write down one or two more observations as you consider the passage a final time. If you like, use an English or Greek dictionary, a concordance or the cross references in your Bible to further explore interesting words or phrases.

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Write down one or two personal applications from this passage. How do Luke's key thoughts impact your thinking? How would you like them to impact your words, your actions, and your attitudes?

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What are You Worried About?

Luke 12:1-34

Preaching Date: September 22, 2019

Worship: Trust in God Alone

Key Sentence: The believer worries - about the right things.

Outline:

I. Worry about fearing God not man (Luke 12:1-12)

II. Worry about foolish priorities (Luke 12:13-21)

III. Worry about needless worry (Luke 12: 22-34)

It seems that in 1890 a study was made to find the 100 most influential families in the United States. As part of the study some predictions were made as to the role these families would have in America 100 years later. It was predicted that they would be an elite class of leaders in government, education, and especially industry. That their families would be the movers and shakers of American society, the royalty, the bluebloods of American culture.

But 100 years later you and I have not even heard of most of these people. A few we have - the Roosevelts, J.P. Morgan, Andrew Carnegie. But many we have never heard of. And the article asked "What happened to these families?" most had suffered financial reversals. Many of these families had suffered suicides of influential members, and many family members had become alcoholics, or pleasure seekers, or had died early squandering their fortunes.

The point of the article was that America would never have a ruling class. But the point I took from it was that Wealth and Influence and Power were not the best things that could happen to these 100 families. If it proves anything it proves, statistically, that what the world calls having it all is not so great.

Preaching Date: September 22, 2019

This week's passage: Luke 12:1-34

Lesson 1

Read the Scripture passage for the week. Underline the thoughts that stand out to you.

Write out one verse that stands out to you.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

Write down a couple of observations you make as you consider the whole passage. Consider the important events, people and teachings.

What connects this passage to God's Big Story of redemption and rescue?

Write down one or two personal applications from this passage. Is there a way that this passage connects with your life or resonates with your heart?

Pray God's word back to Him. Give Him thanks for the truths that He has revealed in this passage.

Preaching Date: September 22, 2019

This week's passage: Luke 12:1-34

Lesson 2

Read the Scripture passage for the week. Mark all the references to God in a distinctive way.

Write out one verse that stands out to you. This can be the same verse or a different verse than Day 1.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

Write down a couple more observations as you consider the main passage. Is there something that stands out to you about God (Father, Son or Spirit) from this portion of Scripture?

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Write down one or two personal applications from this passage.
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Preaching Date: September 22, 2019

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Lesson 3

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Write down one or two personal applications from this passage. How do Luke's key thoughts impact your thinking? How would you like them to impact your words, your actions, and your attitudes?

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Be Prepared

Luke 12:35-59

Preaching Date: September 29, 2019

Worship: Glory Will Cover the Earth

Key Sentence: Be prepared for the return of the Lord.

I. Watchfulness (12:35-40)

II. Diligence (12:41-48)

III. Understanding the times (12:49-59)

Arnold T. Olson wrote: “Ever since the first days of the Christian church, evangelicals have been "looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ." They may have disagreed as to its timing and to the events on the eschatological calendar. They may have differed as to a pre-tribulation or post-tribulation rapture—the pre- or post- or non-millennial coming. They may have been divided as to a literal rebirth of Israel. However, all are agreed that the final solution to the problems of this world is in the hands of the King of kings who will someday make the kingdoms of this world his very own.”

Preaching the Word – Luke, Volume II: That You May Know the Truth, by R. Kent Hughes

Preaching Date: September 29, 2019
This week's passage: Luke 12:35-59
Lesson 1

Read the Scripture passage for the week. Underline the thoughts that stand out to you.

Write out one verse that stands out to you.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

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Pray God's word back to Him. Give Him thanks for the truths that He has revealed in this passage.

Preaching Date: September 29, 2019
This week's passage: Luke 12:35-59
Lesson 2

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The Kingdom of the Wing-Gatherers

Luke 13:1-35

Preaching Date: October 6, 2019

Worship: Under His Wings

Key Sentence: The whole kingdom gathers for rescue under the care of Jesus

Outline:

I. Not personal righteousness but fruitful repentance (Luke 13:1-9)

II. Not rule keeping, but compassion (Luke 13:10-21)

III. Not focused on few or many, but on wing-gathering (Luke 13:22-35)

The picture of an eagle spreading her vast wings in protection, and even scooping fallen chicks from the air and carrying them aloft to safety, is instructive and encouraging. This image was a favorite of the authors of the Psalms.

Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings. (Psalm 17:8) How priceless is your unfailing love! Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings. (Psalm 36:7) Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me, for in you my soul takes refuge. I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed. (Psalm 57:1) I long to dwell in your tent forever and take refuge in the shelter of your wings. (Psalm 61:4) Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings. (Psalm 63:7) He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. (Psalm 91:4)

Tucked under his wings, one finds sustenance, warmth, and security. This is not a sentimental image. This is what Jesus longs to do for us.

Preaching the Word – Luke, Volume II: That You May Know the Truth, by R. Kent Hughes

Preaching Date: October 6, 2019

This week's passage: Luke 13:1-35

Lesson 1

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Write out one verse that stands out to you.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

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Preaching Date: October 6, 2019

This week's passage: Luke 13:1-35

Lesson 2

Read the Scripture passage for the week. Mark all the references to God in a distinctive way.

Write out one verse that stands out to you. This can be the same verse or a different verse than Day 1.

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Preaching Date: October 6, 2019

This week's passage: Luke 13:1-35

Lesson 3

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The Banquet

Luke 14:1-35

Preaching Date: October 13, 2019

Worship: Under His Wings

Key Sentence: There is only one banquet for those who give up self-fulfillment Outline:

I. The banquet is for the humble (1-14)

II. The banquet is for those too hungry to make excuses (15-24)

III. The banquet is for those willing to count the cost (25-35)

My grandmother was a wise person, in her own homey way. She lived with us, in our home, from the time I was born, until her death at age 87, when I was in college - so she was a fixture of my childhood. And I remember many of her mannerisms and sayings. One of her favorite sayings toward me was "You'd lose your head if it wasn't attached to your shoulders."

She was always in the kitchen working on something. She made great apple pie. Then as she ate it she would say "Well that's a pretty good pie, even if I do have to say so myself!"

She would make brownies, and then hide them because she didn't want them all eaten up. I don't know what she was saving them for. I remember coming home from school, saying "I'm hungry", poking around the kitchen: She'd say "Well, you can have an apple" - No. "How about a piece of toast" - No. "How about a glass of milk" - No Then she'd say: "If you can't find anything you want, you're not really hungry" and she would shoo me out of the kitchen.

If you can't find anything you want, then you're not really hungry: I think that's part of what this text teaches. God's banquet is experienced by those too hungry to make excuses.

Preaching Date: October 13, 2019

This week's passage: Luke 14:1-35

Lesson 1

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Write out one verse that stands out to you.

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Preaching Date: October 13, 2019

This week's passage: Luke 14:1-35

Lesson 2

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The Seeking God and the Repentant Sinner

Luke 15:1-32

Preaching Date: October 20, 2019

Worship: The Prodigal Father

Key Sentence: God rejoices when we repent of sin and self-righteousness

Outline:

- I. Seeking the lost (and repenting) (Luke 15:1-10)
- II. The heart of the seeker and the repentant (Luke 15:11-24)
- III. The heart of the self-righteous (Luke 15:25-32)

Frank Peretti has given us a vivid, if fictionalized, picture of this rejoicing. In his second book, *Piercing the Darkness* He tells the story of Sally Beth Roe who God seeks through the whole book. Finally near the end she becomes a believer. She repents. She says "Jesus, I want you to forgive me"

Then Peretti tells the rest of her conversion from heaven's point of view: Hundreds of angel warriors gather around her. "As in countless times past, in countless places, with marvelous inscrutable wonder, the Lamb of God stood among them. He had come to be the Savior of this woman. He knew her by name; and speaking her name, he touched her - and her sins were gone.

A rustling began in the first row of angels, then in the next, and then like a wave rushing outward, the silver wings from row upon row of warriors caught the air, raising a roar, and lifted the angels to their feet. The warriors held their swords Heavenward, a forest of fiery blades, and began to shout in tumultuous joy, their voices rumbling and shaking the whole spiritual realm. The wings took hold and the skies filled with warriors, swirling, shouting, cheering, worshipping "Worthy is the Lamb" the warriors thundered "for he was slain and with His blood has purchased the woman, Sally Beth Roe"

Preaching Date: October 20, 2019

This week's passage: Luke 15:1-32

Lesson 1

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Write out one verse that stands out to you.

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Lesson 2

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Write out the verse that stands out to you. This can be the same verse or a different verse from Day 1 and 2.

Record your thoughts about your verse of the day. Why is this verse particularly meaningful or interesting?

Write down one or two more observations as you consider the passage a final time. If you like, use an English or Greek dictionary, a concordance or the cross references in your Bible to further explore interesting words or phrases.

What thoughts from this passage lead you toward wonder and worship?

Write down one or two personal applications from this passage. How do Luke's key thoughts impact your thinking? How would you like them to impact your words, your actions, and your attitudes?

Pray God's word back to Him. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your responses to the truths you have been considering this week.