

FAITH COMES BY HEARING Bible Study – 2.21.24 (for 2.25.24)

FIRST READING: Psalm 37:3-7

- ³Trust in the LORD, and do good;
dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.
- ⁴Delight yourself in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- ⁵Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.
- ⁶He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
and your justice as the noonday.
- ⁷Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way,
over the man who carries out evil devices!

- 1) David wrote Psalm 37 as a reflection on how the godly should live when evil seems prevalent and abundant. What activities does David share are descriptive of the godly?
- 2) David calls us to delight in the Lord. What does that mean to you? What does that look like in your day to day life?
- 3) Why is it easier, as David points out in verse 7, to fret over evil prospering than it is to be patient and still before the Lord?

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-10

¹If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. ⁴Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵or rude. It does

not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

- 1) Paul makes it clear that without love, our speaking and acting is “nothing.” Why is love the piece that matters the most?
- 2) The Corinthians struggled understanding the difference between love and lust. How does Paul clarify what love is compared to lust in verses 4-8?
- 3) Of all the definitions of what love is, which one resonates most deeply with you? Why?

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one

knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

- 1) Jesus contrasts “the wise and understanding” and “little children” in His prayer. What are the differences between these two groups? Why does Jesus give preference to the little children?
- 2) Jesus offers an invitation to “all.” What does He invite all to do? What will He provide those who do?
- 3) How does Jesus’ “yoke” differ from that of others?