

The Journey Uniting Church – Bible Reading Plan – May 2011

Week 1 Sunday 1st May – You will DO it!

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
1 st May	Eph 6:10-18	John 16:25-33	Romans 3:21-4:25	Psalms 35	Psalms 41

Over the years there has been much spoken and written on Spiritual Warfare. There is a tendency to mystify it and turn it into hocus pocus, or some sort of magical 'power struggle'. I believe that, whilst there is definitely a place for deliverance ministry (just read the gospels!), the daily 'spiritual war' is won by resting in Jesus' victory. This resting is not a passive thing; it is active reliance on God that is so effective and powerful, that we rest in Him and His goodness. Believe and confess the truth; rest in Christ's righteousness; extend peace to others; intentionally cultivate optimistic faith; have a mind captivated by Jesus' 'salvation mission'; marinate in God's word and pray in the Spirit constantly. The battle is won when we recognise that the battle is already won! We now have the privilege of fighting in God's strength to bring this truth to others.

Week 2 Sunday 8th May – The Blind See

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
8 th May	Luke 18:35-42	Deuteronomy 15:7-11	Amos 5:11-27	2 Corinthians 9:6-15	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jZ_NiLmbto4 Isaiah 25

In the Luke 18 passage Jesus encounters a blind beggar, someone who could not support himself. Jesus lives out His mission statement, *He has sent me to proclaim...recovering of sight to the blind* (Luke 4:18, ESV) and heals the man. This presumably gave the man the opportunity to support himself. When we read the bible accurately we see that there is favour and anointing on ministry to the poor (eg. Psalm 41:1, Isaiah 61:1). Tragically many of us in the church are amazingly blind towards this truth. Thank goodness that Jesus is in the business of opening all eyes, literal and metaphorical. Jesus, open our eyes today that we might see your call to the poor and act on it!

Week 3 Sunday 15th May – He is willing!

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
15 th May	Luke 5:12-16	Psalms 145	Deuteronomy 9:1-8	Romans 8:18-8:39	Hebrews 12:1-13

Some of us feel as if we need to twist God's arm to get Him to act. Nothing could be further from the truth! Every moment of every day, God the Father dreams and schemes about how to bring good to us, His children- this is His will. Now sometimes this looks like mercy, other times it looks like judgment, but it is always His grace (de-merited favour). Rest in the knowledge of God's faithfulness and goodness this week, allowing His favour to propel you into meaningful mission!

Week 4 Sunday 22nd May – If I Could Say One Thing

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
22 nd May	2 Samuel 23:1-7	Matthew 28:11-20	2 Timothy 4:1-8	Acts 7:51-60	Revelation 22:7-21

Often you hear what people really want to tell you as they are leaving. Some people describe this dynamic as 'doorknob conversations'. This week we are looking at the 'final words' of some people and writers throughout the bible. Allow their wisdom to speak into your situation. *Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, the man who gains understanding* (Proverbs 3:13).

Week 5 Sunday 29th May- Demons Flee

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
29 th May	Luke 9:37-45	Hebrews 1	Colossians 2	Colossians 3:1-17	Philippians 2:1-11

We know that there is a spiritual realm and a spiritual battle. The good news for us is that we have nothing to fear. Jesus, our Servant King, has complete authority over anything, spiritual or physical, that comes against us! (Now, sometimes he uses this authority in ways that perplex us, but we can still rest in His sovereignty). This week consider Jesus' authority in your life and situations. Do you have a mindset that minute by minute recognises and walks in this authority? The result is compassion and peace in your life which extends to those around. You have a God given right to do this through the grace of Jesus!