

# One Year through the New Testament

## THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, CON'T 2

FEBRUARY 1: MATTHEW 21:23 – 46	2
FEBRUARY 2: MATTHEW 22:1 – 33	2
FEBRUARY 3: MATTHEW 22:34 – 23:12	3
FEBRUARY 4: MATTHEW 23:13 – 39	3
FEBRUARY 5: MATTHEW 24: 1-28	4
FEBRUARY 6: MATTHEW 24: 29-51	4
FEBRUARY 7: MATTHEW 25: 1-30	5
FEBRUARY 8: MATTHEW 25:31 – 26: 13	5
FEBRUARY 9: MATTHEW 26: 14-46	6
FEBRUARY 10: MATTHEW 26: 47-68	6
FEBRUARY 11: MATTHEW 26:69 – 27:14	7
FEBRUARY 12: MATTHEW 27: 15-31	7
FEBRUARY 13: MATTHEW 27:32-66	8
FEBRUARY 14: MATTHEW 28: 1-10	8

Note:

For leap years, the 29<sup>th</sup> of February is a catch up day and there are purposely no scheduled readings on that day.

Thank you and may God Bless your study.

## THE GOSPEL OF MARK 9

FEBRUARY 15: MARK 1: 1-28	9
FEBRUARY 16: MARK 1:29 – 2:12	9
FEBRUARY 17: MARK 2:13 – 3:6	10
FEBRUARY 18: MARK 3: 7-30	10
FEBRUARY 19: MARK 3:31 – 4:25	11
FEBRUARY 20: MARK 4:26 – 5:20	11
FEBRUARY 21: MARK 5: 21 – 43	12
FEBRUARY 22: MARK 6: 1-29	12
FEBRUARY 23: MARK 6:30 – 56	13
FEBRUARY 24: MARK 7:1-23	13
FEBRUARY 25: MARK 7:24 - 8:10	14
FEBRUARY 26: MARK 8: 11-38	14
FEBRUARY 27: MARK 9: 1-29	15
FEBRUARY 28: MARK 9:30 – 10:12	15

# One Year through the New Testament

## The Gospel of Matthew, con't

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### February 1: Matthew 21:23 – 46

- 1) Jesus dealt with the Pharisees who questioned how he could teach some of the things he how he did some of the things he did. How did Jesus know that he was in a no win situation with the Pharisees?
- 2) Which son were the Pharisees like? Why?
- 3) What is the “way of righteousness” that John taught and the tax collectors and prostitutes understood?
- 4) In the parable, who was:
  - a. The landowner
  - b. The Vineyard
  - c. The servants
  - d. The son
- 5) What was Jesus saying to the Pharisees and scribes?
- 6) Is there a warning for us?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord Jesus, you commanded us to go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Bless our every effort to proclaim the message salvation to the multitudes of people who have never heard of Jesus, the Savior of nations. Help us to send out more missionaries to tell more people the good news of deliverance from sin, death, and Satan--of forgiveness, peace, and salvation through you. We pray this in your name, Lord Jesus. Amen.*

### February 2: Matthew 22:1 – 33

- 1) Jesus is comparing the Kingdom of heaven to a wedding banquet. Who is invited first?
- 2) How was the one invited treated?
- 3) What is Jesus' point?
- 4) Who are the 'bad' people he invited?
- 5) What is the point about the apparel that is needed?
- 6) How did the Pharisees set a plan to catch Jesus in his words?
- 7) How did the Pharisees want the plan to work
- 8) How did Jesus frustrate them?
- 9) How did the theology of the Sadducees fit with their plot?
- 10) What will our relationships in heaven be like?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord Jesus, you commanded us to go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Bless our every effort to proclaim the message salvation to the multitudes of people who have never heard of Jesus, the Savior of nations. Help us to send out more missionaries to tell more people the good news of deliverance from sin, death, and Satan--of forgiveness, peace, and salvation through you. We pray this in your name, Lord Jesus. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 3: Matthew 22:34 – 23:12

- 1) With what word can the commandments be kept?
- 2) How were the Pharisees trying to test Jesus by the question, "What is the greatest of the commandments?"
- 3) What was Jesus trying to do with the Pharisees when he quoted Psalm 110 to them? (verses 43,44)
- 4) How did the teachers of the Law tie heavy loads to the backs of the people?
- 5) What was Jesus' point in 23: 8,9?
- 6) How does God operate upside down from the world?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Dear heavenly Father, thank you for the blessings you have showered upon our land. Thank you for your gift of prosperity in days of peace and protection in days of war. Thank you for our natural resources, our talents, and our abilities. Thank you for giving us freedom of worship and all other freedoms we possess. We confess that we are sinners and deserve nothing. Nevertheless, for Jesus' sake, we ask you to accompany us with your forgiving grace. Bless our government, prosper the work of our hands, and especially enable us to fulfill our responsibilities as citizens of your kingdom of grace and to be conscientious citizens of this good land. Amen.*

## February 4: Matthew 23:13 – 39

- 1) What did the Pharisees do that made "entry into the kingdom" so hard?
- 2) What did the Pharisees have as a priority?
- 3) What does Jesus mean when he speaks about straining for a gnat and swallowing a camel?
- 4) There are seven woes that he pronounces on the Pharisees. List them.
- 5) Verse 37ff is a verse that we often connect with what doctrine we teach?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord Jesus, I thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Without your Spirit I would not be able to call on you as my Savior and Lord. Thank you for your Holy Word through which the Holy Spirit works. Thank you for water baptism through which the Spirit works. When I desire the Holy Spirit, make me hungry for your word. Help me to recall also my baptism where you placed your name upon me - the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit - and made my body the temple of your Holy Spirit. Help me to remember that I do not earn the gift of the Holy Spirit by my prayers, devotion or tears. Help me to remember - and rejoice - that the gift of the Holy Spirit is entirely a gift of your grace - your undeserved love. Help me to remember that it is not my wrestlings and prayers that cause the Holy Spirit to dwell inside of me. Give me peace in knowing that I have everything I need in you, dear Jesus, and I desire nothing more. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 5: Matthew 24: 1-28

- 1) As this chapter begins where was Jesus and his disciples?
- 2) Where did the discussion go?
- 3) What are signs of Jesus' coming in:
  - a. The church
  - b. Nature
  - c. The world
- 4) Jesus intertwines the signs of the last times with those that will take place for the people of Israel when Rome destroys the land. How are they the same?
- 5) How bad will it be for the believers at the end?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord Jesus, you are the resurrection and the life. You died on the cross to take the punishment for our sin. You rose from the dead to give us eternal life in heaven. I am glad that everyone who trusts in you alone for their salvation will live forever with you in heaven. Comfort us in our grief. Dry our tears and console us in our sorrow. Give us peace that surpasses all understanding. In your name, we pray. Amen.*

## February 6: Matthew 24: 29-51

- 1) What will be the reaction of the world to the second coming of Jesus?
- 2) Who are the elect and how did they get that title?
- 3) What conclusions can one draw if a person is predicting the end of the world?
- 4) What does he mean when he speaks about two people taken but one left? How do we understand that?
- 5) How should we be spending our time?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Almighty God, you divide the day from the night. Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet in the way of peace. And having done your will with cheerfulness while it is day, grant that when evening comes, we may rejoice in giving you thanks in Jesus name. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 7: Matthew 25: 1-30

- 1) Who do the Virgins represent?
- 2) Who do the Wise Virgins represent?
- 3) How about the foolish ones?
- 4) What is the point of the parable of the Ten Virgins?
- 5) According to the parable of the talents, what does God want us to be doing until he returns?
- 6) What does the Lord say wasting of the talents is?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Dear Lord Jesus, when you walked the streets and lanes of city and country in Palestine you were touched by the handicaps and pains of many afflicted people, young and old. Your love and compassion never fails, and so we are bold to bring our troubles to your attention and to commit them to your wise and tender care. In your mercy heal us, or strengthen us to bear our burdens. Amen.*

## February 8: Matthew 25:31 – 26: 13

- 1) Why is the word 'inheritance' such a key word in the understanding of the judgment day account?
- 2) Who are the righteous?
- 3) What is the importance of 'good works' according to this section of the Word?
- 4) As chapter 26 begins what is the plan that is being devised?
- 5) What would your definition of a good work be from the example of the woman who anointed Jesus?
- 6) What is the promise Jesus makes about the work she did?
- 7) What is the blessing you receive from it?

Important questions and thoughts:

*It is not new or strange, blessed Jesus, that sinners want to see you and bring their gifts of gratitude to you. The wise men did it many years ago. Give me such a grateful heart also. In this season, warm my heart through the power of your Word, that I may witness to your grace and confess you before the world as the only Savior from sin. Let the gospel be the bright beacon that leads beyond Bethlehem to the very home you have promised to all who receive you in faith. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 9: Matthew 26: 14-46

- 1) Judas was betraying Jesus. How do we betray Jesus by selling him down the river with money?
- 2) Imagine if you were in the Upper Room with Jesus. What would you be thinking?
- 3) What is the import of the statement "It would be better if he had not been born?"
- 4) What elements do we receive in the Lord's Supper?
- 5) What blessing do we receive in the Lord's Supper?
- 6) Why was Peter self-confident?
- 7) What lessons does Jesus teach us about prayer?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord of the nations, how can we ever thank You for the country which you have given us, the USA? Who can fathom all the blessings which You have showered on us as Americans? But, now we are at war. An enemy has risen who seeks to rob us of our freedom. How thankful we are that young men and women have answered the call to duty and have ventured out into foreign lands to meet the foe. We plead for their safety. Shield them from the weapons of the terrorists. Above all, keep them mindful of their mission. Give them patience and courage. Keep them united, working as a team, ever mindful that You are in charge. We commend them into Your hands, confident that then they are safe for all eternity. We pray this prayer in Jesus' Name. Amen*

## February 10: Matthew 26: 47-68

- 1) What is the irony behind a kiss identifying Jesus as the one who was to be taken into custody?
- 2) Why did the mob come in such great numbers?
- 3) Why did they hate Jesus so much?
- 4) What did Jesus claim?
- 5) What is the irony of verse 68?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O Lord, be gracious and kind to all who are in trouble. Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, and give your strength to those who are weary and weak. Do what is best for them according to your gracious will, and keep them faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 11: Matthew 26:69 – 27:14

- 1) What makes denial such a bad sin?
- 2) What made Peter's denial so bad?
- 3) In what ways do we deny Jesus?
- 4) Judas committed suicide. What makes this such a bad sin?
- 5) There was a prophecy that Judas would betray Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. What is the difference between foreknowledge of such an event versus the foreordaining of the event?
- 6) Which was true here?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Dear God, merciful Father, praise be to you, praise from my inmost being. Thank you, Lord, for another day in your grace, for the gift of forgiveness and the hope of life. Keep me this night and let me enjoy restful sleep so I may awaken again to a new day ready to serve to the glory of your name. Keep my loved ones also in your loving care and strengthen them in faith and purpose, all for Jesus' sake. Amen.*

## February 12: Matthew 27: 15-31

- 1) It is obvious just how much hatred the leaders of the people had for Jesus. How did they stir up the people to feel the same way?
- 2) Do you feel sorry for Pilate or not?
- 3) When are we called to stick up for Jesus and fail?
- 4) Who was responsible for crucifying Jesus?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Every now and again, heavenly Father, we really ought to sit down and think how much is accomplished in this world by people who don't get a red cent for doing it. Volunteers touch our lives in so many ways that we often don't even think of! But when there is a need, somehow you have people showing up at the door asking what they can do! We are grateful for them, and for the kind of spirit you've put into them. And we are especially grateful for all the retirees who keep on offering their help in so many matters. So often we are tempted to fall in with the idea that the "golden years" are to be spent on our own enjoyment alone. Thank you for keeping so many bespectacled eyes trained on the road of service, and for the many blessings you give them as they follow it. Help us find more ways to show them, and their younger counterparts, how much they are appreciated. After all, they are the fingers on your hand. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 13: Matthew 27:32-66

- 1) Why do you think Jesus refused the drink of gall mixed with wine?
- 2) Why was Jesus such a disappointment to the people?
- 3) What is the meaning of the words, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- 4) The temple was 90 feet high and the curtain was a hand's width wide. Certainly that makes the miracle of tearing the curtain all the more miraculous.
- 5) How were Jesus' words predicting the resurrection taken to heart even by Jesus' enemies?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord God, there are still many who could use some work. Many want to get out there and get a job and earn my living. But so far it isn't happening. We know that time is in your hands. We know that all things, even unemployment, will work together for good according to your good purpose. And we know that you've promised that families won't starve. We are grateful to you for all of this, and please give us, first of all, the gift of patience. Don't let us start ranting about how it's not fair that some don't have a job, or start losing our trust in you. But, along with this gift, we also ask you most sincerely to help the unemployed find work soon. You've given abilities. Your Son knows, from all His years in the carpenter's shop, what a blessing it is to have steady work. For His sake, and especially since He died and rose again to make your children as well, we pray that you would give many this blessing, too, and as soon as Your mercy and wisdom will allow. Amen.*

## February 14: Matthew 28: 1-10

- 1) Why were the women going to the tomb?
- 2) Why were the guards afraid? Why was that a natural reaction?
- 3) Look at verse eight. What does it mean the women were "afraid, yet filled with joy?"
- 4) How did the leaders try to cover up the resurrection?
- 5) How do people do that today?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Merciful Savior, our prayer goes out today for our friends and others on this Valentine's Day weekend who have enjoyed a relationship with a potential mate but have seen that relationship broken for a time. According to your will, lead these couples to restore their relationship in true and lasting love and faithfulness. Turn them first to you for forgiveness of the wrongs that have caused their heartache and keep them close to you as the guiding force in their future. If they are not to return to each other, lead them, O Lord, to find other partners that will return love and will share faith and fortune. We pray in your most holy name. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## The Gospel of Mark

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### February 15: Mark 1: 1-28

- 1) Where does Mark begin his Gospel?
- 2) What was John the Baptist's teaching and purpose?
- 3) How is the Trinity revealed in verses 9-11?
- 4) What does "repent" mean?
- 5) Why didn't Jesus want the testimony of the evil spirit?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord Jesus Christ, you instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion to seal to me the personal guarantee that all my sins are forgiven. Lead me to true sorrow and repentance for all my sins. Give me faith to believe your body and blood, once given and shed on the cross, are present with the bread and wine that I receive in this sacrament. Fill my heart and mind with comfort, peace, and joy, knowing that all my sins are pardoned. Give me renewed zeal each day and lead me to live a godly life in loving obedience to your commandments. I ask this in your precious name, O Savior. Amen.*

### February 16: Mark 1:29 – 2:12

- 1) Whose mother-in-law did Jesus heal?
- 2) What do we learn from Jesus' prayer life?
- 3) How was the man with leprosy and example for us?
- 4) Healing the paralytic is such a significant miracle. Why?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord, it is hard for many to handle responsibilities. Many don't know how to work out all of their problems. I ask that you would intervene on their behalf. Show people how they can best take care of their families and take care of the bills that accumulate. You multiplied the loaves and the fishes when you fed the five thousand. With you nothing is impossible. Continue to provide our daily bread. We are glad that you paid the price for the sins of all when you died on the cross. As you gave your life for us, Help us trust in you for the future. Be with us and give us your peace. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 17: Mark 2:13 – 3:6

- 1) What seems to be the overall theme of the reading today?
- 2) What is significant about the emphasis on some of the people that Jesus called to follow him?
- 3) What point is Jesus making in 2:21,22 about sewing new patches onto unshrunk cloth and the new and old wineskins?
- 4) What is the point of the Law?
- 5) Why did the leaders begin to plot to kill Jesus?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O God, my Father in heaven, bless every effort to establish peace among the nations of the world. Give wisdom and strength to those who lead, guide those who make decisions, and transform the hearts of people everywhere to exalt peace above war, justice above gain, and honor above glory, for Jesus' sake. Amen.*

## February 18: Mark 3: 7-30

- 1) Notice the orders given to the demons not to testify about Jesus. What might happen if they did?
- 2) What is meant by the designation of 'apostle'?
- 3) What was significant about the names Jesus gave to some of his disciples?
  - a) Peter
  - b) Sons of Boanerges
- 4) What was illogical about the charge that the leaders leveled against Jesus about being from Satan?
- 5) What is the sin against the Holy Spirit?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O Lord, support us all the day long, till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then in your mercy, for Jesus' sake, grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 19: Mark 3:31 – 4:25

- 1) What exactly did Jesus mean when he called his followers his mother, brothers?
- 2) Is it fair to say that we have elements of all four types of soil in us? Give a reason for your answer.
- 3) What does Jesus mean when he says, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear?"
- 4) Why does someone hear and not perceive or hear but not understand?
- 5) What does the thirty, sixty and one hundred fold production of the fruit tell us?
- 6) What warning is Jesus saying in 4:24-25?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord God, Heavenly Father, you give us not only the hands to labor but labor for our hands. I want to thank you, therefore, for the gift of steady employment. While a lot of people are looking for work, you have seen fit to provide me with a job and the security of a regular paycheck. Help me to show my gratitude by working for my employer the way I'd work if you personally were signing the checks. Help me to give the job everything I've got, and thus show you how much I appreciate this great gift you have given me.*

*And I thank you also for friends and colleagues where I work. Most of us like to be part of some group or another; that's something, it seems, that you yourself put into us. Thank you for giving me people I enjoy being around at the workplace (and, yes, thanks even for the ones I don't enjoy all that much!). Help me be a true friend to them, and help me to behave like a true Christian among them, so that they will be happy to be around me, and that your name will be honored in my dealings with them. I pray this in Jesus' name, who worked all those years as a carpenter and certainly remembers how good it felt to be doing daily work. Amen.*

## February 20: Mark 4:26 – 5:20

- 1) How is the scattering of the seed so much like the spreading of God's Word?
- 2) There are many ways that the disciples' fears were unfounded. What were they?
- 3) In chapter five Jesus cast out the demons. What made this such an impressive miracle?
- 4) What is the significance that the demons were cast into pigs?
- 5) Why did he tell the once-possessed man to go to his family and tell them? What can we learn from that?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Every now and again, heavenly Father, we really ought to sit down and think how much is accomplished in this world by people who don't get a red cent for doing it. Volunteers touch our lives in so many ways that we often don't even think of! But when there is a need, somehow you have people showing up at the door asking what they can do! We are grateful for them, and for the kind of spirit you've put into them. And we are especially grateful for all the retirees who keep on offering their help in so many matters. So often we are tempted to fall in with the idea that the "golden years" are to be spent on our own enjoyment alone. Thank you for keeping so many bespectacled eyes trained on the road of service, and for the many blessings you give them as they follow it. Help us find more ways to show them, and their younger counterparts, how much they are appreciated. After all, they are the fingers on your hand. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 21: Mark 5: 21 – 43

- 1) Jesus does a series of miracles in this reading. Why is it significant that a synagogue leader come to him?
- 2) Jesus makes a big deal that a woman touched his clothes. What lessons do we learn from that?
- 3) When Jesus sees Jairus' daughter, he says she is sleeping. What should we learn from that term as Jesus uses it?
- 4) Why did he take Peter, James and John with him to witness the miracle?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord God, you know our human weaknesses and frailties. You know our needs and cares. We do not in any way deserve your help, Lord, but we truly need it. Therefore we come to you. Grant us peace of mind, so that we may face the difficulties that now confront us. Strengthen our weak faith, lead us with your strong hand, and work things out so that they serve our eternal good. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

## February 22: Mark 6: 1-29

- 1) If the people were amazed at Jesus' wisdom and his ability to do miracles, why were they offended by him?
- 2) Why does the Scripture say Jesus "could not do any miracles there?" How is that to be understood?
- 3) Why did Jesus send out his disciples with the instructions not to take too much along with them?
- 4) Why would Herod's ears perk up when he heard what Jesus was doing?
- 5) Why did Herod find John so interesting? (6:20)
- 6) Who else in the Bible got into trouble because of an oath they made?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord Jesus, Teacher of the Truth, keep the light of Christian education glowing in your church. Enter our Lutheran elementary schools and Sunday schools, and with your powerful Word, mold the intellect, will, values, and habits of our children. Give your gospel success at our Lutheran high schools to keep our teenagers on the narrow road. Watch closely over our synod's preparatory schools, colleges, and theological seminary so that your flock may be provided with faithful pastors and teachers. We seek these blessings in the hope that our children and our children's children may learn to know your name. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 23: Mark 6:30 – 56

- 1) Why did Jesus need to go away to a quiet place?
- 2) Can we learn from that?
- 3) Besides that great miracle that was done, what are other things we can learn from the way he took care of the people and the leftovers?
- 4) The Scriptures reports (verse 52) that they did not understand the miracle of the loaves. What was there to understand?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Heavenly Father, when Satan tempts us to feel that You don't hear our prayers, and that only a miracle could solve all our problems, then cause us to look about and see miracles all around. As Jesus reminds us in the parable (Matthew 6:25ff), the same almighty God Who feeds the birds and Who colors the flowers will also provide for His children. And let Your Holy Spirit remind them of the greatest miracle of all, the miracle of salvation, that God did not spare His Own Son, but delivered Him up for us all. Let that be our assurance that God does hear our prayers and that He also answers our prayers in the best possible manner and the proper time. Amen*

## February 24: Mark 7:1-23

- 1) In verses 1-4 every time the word 'wash' is used the Greek word 'baptize' is being used. How should we understand what 'baptize' means when we study it in context?
- 2) Obviously what was wrong with the Pharisees' theology?
- 3) How do we give Jesus lip service?
- 4) 'Corban' was a Jewish tradition that alleviated children from taking care of their parents when the gift was brought to the temple. How did it violate the clear command of God?
- 5) What makes a person unclean?
- 6) What makes a person clean?

Important questions and thoughts:

*O God of peace, I turn aside from an unquiet world, seeking rest for my spirit and light for my thoughts. I bring my work to be sanctified, my wounds to be healed, my sins to be forgiven, my hopes to be renewed. In you through your Son there is perfect harmony. Draw me to yourself, and silence the discords of my wasteful life. Your greatness is beyond my highest praise. Take me out of the loneliness of self, and fill me with the fullness of your peace. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 25: Mark 7:24 - 8:10

- 1) What is important about the background of the lady and her child?
- 2) What is so impressive about her faith?
- 3) Why did Jesus touch the ears of the deaf man? Why didn't he just heal him?
- 4) The miracle of the feeding of the four thousand is verified in this Gospel as well as in Matthew. Should we feel more sure that it is true because it is recorded in other Gospels instead of just once? Give a reason for your answer.

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord, I approach this season with mixed feelings. First, I feel terrible that I have sinned so severely to cause you such pain and suffering. I see your tortured body and think of the sins my hands committed, the sinful thoughts I had, the sinful words I said, and the sinful things my eyes saw. For all my sins, I am very sorry. Second, I feel good to know that you would take all my sins on yourself and give your life as a payment for them. For your forgiveness and my salvation, I am very happy. If you wish me to follow you in suffering, give me the strength to bear it bravely, knowing that in the end I will have everlasting glory because you suffered and died for me. Amen.*

## February 26: Mark 8: 11-38

- 1) Why were the Pharisees asking for a sign when Jesus did them among them?
- 2) What was the yeast of the Pharisees?
- 3) What did their ears fail to hear and their eyes fail to see?
- 4) Why did Jesus spit and cause the sight of the blind man to come back slowly?
- 5) Jesus began to teach that the Son of "man 'must' suffer." Why did he use that word?
- 6) How was Peter acting as Satan's instrument?
- 7) Explain the paradox in verse 35

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord God, I thank you that you have kept me through the night from all harm and danger. I am grateful you have brought me to the start of a new day. Truly your mercies are new every morning. Your love covers the sins of yesterday and your promises give me hope for today. Handle the many problems I am facing. Lighten the burdens that weigh heavy on my heart. Give special help to those who are struggling. Grant me a spirit of joy as I dedicate my life to you. Into your hands I commit my body and soul and all things. Amen.*

# One Year through the New Testament

## February 27: Mark 9: 1-29

- 1) What day is Jesus referring to that they would see when the kingdom of God would come with power?
- 2) What is the point Jesus was making when he was transfigured?
- 3) Why were Elijah and Moses there?
- 4) Why were the teachers of the Law saying that Elijah needed to come before the Messiah did?
- 5) How did the evil spirit manifest himself on the man?
- 6) What insight does Jesus give us about this spirit?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Dear Creator and Preserver of life, frailties of body and soul plague each of us. I come to you on behalf of those who are confined to sickbeds. If it is your will, ease their pain, restore their health, and allow them to return to their daily activities. Enable them to see their sickness as an opportunity to give glory to you. Because you sent Jesus to take away the lasting effects of sin and disease, comfort these people with the timeless message of your love. Renew in them the certain hope of eternal life. And grant them all joy in living now and in eternity, for Jesus' sake. Amen.*

## February 28: Mark 9:30 – 10:12

- 1) Why do you think the disciples were afraid to ask Jesus about his repeated prophecy that he would die and rise again?
- 2) How does one become first by being last?
- 3) What lesson is taught to us when Jesus deals with the question about the man who was doing miracles but was not part of the twelve disciples?
- 4) Is Jesus really teaching us to maim ourselves if we have a member of the body that offends Jesus?
- 5) What does Jesus teach us about marriage that needs to be heard by society today?
- 6) What does Jesus when we can divorce?

Important questions and thoughts:

*Lord God, you created our world and society to be orderly and to have authority figures. You created our world and society in this way to bring your blessings to us. We give you thanks for the order and the authority that our parents brought to our growing up, for those blessings have served us well. Bless our parents during these times of their lives and give us a respect and love that lasts beyond the years of childhood. Teach us to imitate the love your Son felt for his mother even when that love was inconvenient. Bless our loving, just as the love of our parents blessed our living. For Jesus' sake we pray. Amen.*