

Week 5: Day 6

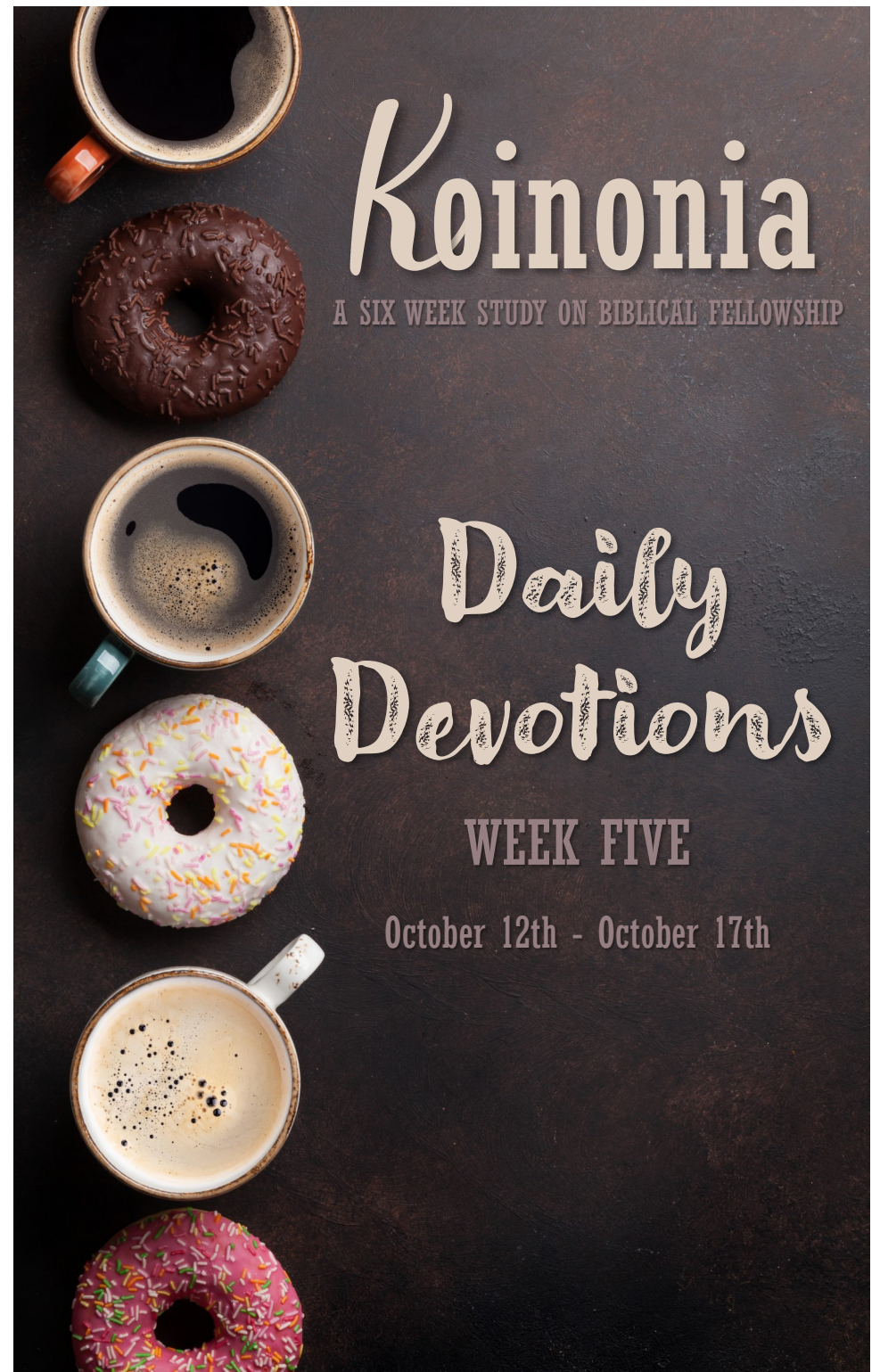
We are going to finish this week off looking at what is most important and most valuable.

-Read Philippians 3:1-14

-What are some “Observations” that you see with this passage?

-What are some “Interpretations” from this passage?

-What are some “Applications” from this passage?



Observation, Interpretation, Application Study Tool

Observation

1. WHO is speaking? Who is this about? Who are the main characters?
2. WHAT is the subject or event covered in the chapter? What do you learn about the people, event, or teaching? What historical time frame is this being spoken in? What type of literature is being written here (historical narrative, poetic, prophetic, allegorical, wisdom literature)?
3. WHEN do/will the events occur or did/will something happen to someone?
4. WHERE did or will this happen? Where was it said?
5. WHY is something being said or mentioned? Why would/will this happen? Why at that time and/or to this person/people?
6. HOW will it happen? How is it to be done? How is it illustrated?

Interpretation

1. Why is the author writing this particular passage?
2. What sinful, broken or fallen condition is being addressed or corrected by this passage?

-What are some “Applications” from this passage?

-Humility and Hypocrisy do not go together. Humility is tied to selflessness, while hypocrisy is tied to selfishness. Today we read how we are to adopt the attitude of Christ. Is it an attitude of selfishness or selflessness?

Pray this week that you will be selfless not selfish.

Week 5: Day 5

At various times in our lives we all respond like hypocrites. We all have an ideal view of how we want others to see us. Does that view match up with reality especially if we are believers?

Philippians 2:3-15

-What are some "Observations" that you see with this passage?

-What are some "Interpretations" from this passage?

3. What deeper sin or heart issues are being exposed or corrected?

4. How does this passage point to God's character and Glory?

5. How do we see God's redemptive plan (gospel) being worked out in the people's lives?

Application

1. In what ways am I looking to find hope and fulfillment in things besides you, Lord?

2. In what ways am I seeking to earn your favor rather than live by grace?

3. What do my actions suggest that I'm wrongly believing about your character, our relationship, and what you've said in your Word?

4. In what am I making my treasure (looking to for my worth, identity and joy) other than Christ?

5. What old sinful thoughts and beliefs am I trusting in and need to repent of? What new thoughts and beliefs should I trust in and walk in according to my reading today?

Week 5: Day 1

Small groups are vital for growth and maturity as a church, but we cannot even hope to grow if we do not identify with Christ. This entire week of devotions is all about our identity in Christ.

Read Genesis 1:26-27, 2nd Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 2:10, Colossians 3:1-4

-What are some "Observations" that you see with this passage?

-What are some "Interpretations" from this passage?

-What are some "Applications" from this passage?

-We must not just be hearers of the word, but doers of it. Meaning, we must practice what we preach. If we preach Jesus Christ, we must live with Him evident in our lives. Spend the rest of your time in prayer asking God to shape you and mold you into who He wants you to be rather than who you think you should be.

Week 5: Day 4

The word Hypocrite means- **a person who claims or pretends to have certain beliefs about what is right but who behaves in a way that disagrees with those beliefs.**

There are times in our lives where our actions do not match up with our beliefs. We tend to respond like the Pharisees holding others to standards that we don't hold to ourselves. We become people who hear what God has to say and we put it into practice for others. Is that what Christ wants? No, but it is what we do.

Read James 1:19-26

-What are some "Observations" that you see with this passage?

-What are some "Interpretations" from this passage?

-What are some "Applications" from this passage?

-These verses we just read share that if we are a believer in Jesus then our identity is attached to Christ. You are no longer the same person. You are different or at least you should be. Do others see Christ in you or just another hypocrite?

Week 5: Day 2

If we go back to Week 1: Day 1 of our devotions, we read about the call of Peter and the call of Matthew. Jesus was calling them to share in his life and ministry and it's the same call for us today. As we dig into our devotions for today we are going to be spending time looking at what it means to abide in Christ and what the outcome of that abiding is.

Read John 15:1-6

-What are some "Observations" that you see with this passage?

-What are some “Interpretations” from this passage?

-What are some “Applications” from this passage?

-Can you abide with Christ without identifying with Christ? No you cannot. They go hand in hand with each other. This week pray for God to reveal areas in your life where you need pruning so that you bear more fruit in Christ.

Week 5: Day 3

Our identity is tied to our abiding with Christ. If we say we identify with Christ yet we don't abide with him who then are we like?

Read Matthew 23:1-12

-What are some “Observations” that you see with this passage?

-What are some “Interpretations” from this passage?

-What are some “Applications” from this passage?

-Read Matthew 23:13, 15, 23, 25, 27-29. What did Jesus call the scribes and Pharisees? What is a hypocrite? Based on what we read prior to these verses, how does Christ want us to act? (See Matthew 23:12)