



Week 2 of Challenge #4
Week of July 19 – July 23
Chapter 10

Rabbi, Rabbouni, Teacher

Okay, don't laugh! Most of you don't even know me but those that do have heard me refer to myself as a "learning disabled sheep." Not to be silly, really, or in any way disrespectful but in thinking today about myself under the tutelage of the Rabbi It brings about an even deeper consideration. I've spent years in the world of education. I've seen and experienced the difficulties of students with learning disabilities. I spent years sitting in 504 meetings reviewing IEP's, necessary and helpful tools for children that qualify for the special education program in schools. Qualification for this program, means the student's disability must have an adverse effect on their educational performance. 504/IEP are abbreviations for educational terms not necessary for today's introduction but helpful to me in forming a metaphor for my analogy.

I've spent years studying God's Word: hearing, teaching, applying it but my disability as one of God's sheep has sometimes left an adverse effect on my spiritual performance. I get the lesson but then I fail the test. I pass one test to have another lesson and fail another test. I'm thankful for the grace of our Rabbi. What about you? Can you relate? He's never given up on me, never given me a detention, never belittled me but rather He gently guides, directs, reteaches, and patiently waits for me to yield and keep learning.

Knowing scripture is much easier than actually living it. Living it requires authenticity and transparency. Living it requires surrender and submission. Living requires humility, forgiveness and willingness.

Some of the students I worked with that had learning disabilities were actually some of the best students because they had a great work ethic, they were faithful to study, they persevered, never gave up and kept pressing on. When I submit myself as a willing available lifelong student of the greatest teacher ever I become a sheep that can do the impossible with confidence because my eyes are fixed on the Shepherd also called Teacher. When I take my eyes off the Shepherd, also called Rabbi, I disable my ability to be used fully and completely.

Being a student always means there's a test. Being a good test taker isn't always easy. But in this pursuit of being a lifelong student of the greatest of all teachers I want to pass the test. How about you?

Daily reflections as we consider our Rabbi:

Monday: Read John 13: 3-8, 12-17 again. What does it look like for you to live your life with a servant and worship heart posture? Jesus, our Rabbi, demonstrated at the last meal with his beloved friends the ultimate act of humility, love and servanthood. Washing their feet, the lowliest of jobs, stripping down from his outer tunic to his inner tunic-the attire of a servant, he taught us how to love. Ask him to show you how to love others as he has loved us.

Tuesday: Read Matthew 23. What changes can you make in your life to become more God-focused so that you're pointing others to Jesus more than having others point to you? Ask the Lord to forgive any puffiness and finger pointing that may be there. Ask Him to give you the desire to become more God-focused so that all you do and say points others to Him.

Wednesday: Read John 9:1-3 again. Did you catch the statement Jesus made, "so that the works of God might be displayed in him?" How were your eyes opened? Praise Him for opening your eyes so that , now you see!

Thursday: Read Matthew 13:3-23, adding to today's suggested reading passage, Matthew 13:31-32. In verse 3, Jesus is talking about the sower being anyone who teaches God's word. In this parable , Jesus teaches what happens to the seed of His Word when it's planted. It bears much fruit. Examine the condition of your heart's soil. Is it bearing much fruit? Allow the Holy Spirit to cultivate the soil of your heart so that you can produce good fruit and sow much seed.

Friday: Read Matthew 6:28, 18:6, 13:3 and Mark 4:33-34: Jesus, our Master Teacher taught in parables – an art form of communication that no one did better than Him. What does this tell you about God's desire for you to understand Him and His Word? How are you responding to God's offer and seeking His wisdom? Talk to Him about it today.

EE Prayer Network Weekly Prayer Requests July 19, 2021



Adoration

I will exalt You, my God and King;
I will bless Your name for ever and ever.
Every day I will bless You,
And I will praise Your name for ever and ever.
Great are You, Lord, and most worthy of praise;
Your greatness is unsearchable. (Psalm 145:1-3)

Out of the north You come in golden splendor;
With You is awesome majesty.
You, the Almighty, are beyond our reach;
You are exalted in power,
And in Your justice and great righteousness,
You do not oppress. (Job 37:22-23)

Praise Him for His infinite mercy and love. For how He pours out His love on us again and again, constantly moving us toward love and forgiveness. For being the Lord our God, the one and only true God. Nothing compares to our God. Praise Him for His counsel over you, even for instructing our hearts at night. For knowing that we are secure because He will not abandon us. For making known to us the path of life, filling us with joy in His presence, with eternal pleasures at His right hand.

Pause to express your thoughts of praise and worship.

Confession

You, O God, will not always strive with us,
Nor will You harbor Your anger forever;
You do not treat us as our sins deserve
Or repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
So great is Your love for those who fear You;
As far as the east is from the west,
So far have You removed our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion on his children,
So You have compassion on those who fear You. (Psalm 103:9-13)

Father forgive us:

- we are broken, God be merciful to us a sinner.
- for being intolerant people; allowing ourselves to judge others, giving preferential treatment to those who are wealthy while ignoring those who are poor, blind, and hurting.

- for being boastful and full of pride; forgive our arrogant ways that have ruled You out of schools, courts, and communities, as a country, we have little respect for your Sabbath Day and no longer keep it holy set aside for rest and worship.
- for becoming blind to Your ways; we have eyes that do not see, ears that do not hear.
- for allowing Satan to bind and enslave us with our own passions; Jesus you died to free us from our bondage to sin; forgive us for giving in to our fleshly passions and sinful addictions; please set us free and make us slaves of Christ Jesus and agents of righteousness in our broken world.
- for dishonoring You and Your name. We have sinned for we have spoken against You, Lord.
- our gaze has been altered and we are no longer focused on You; rather we've given ourselves over to the amusements of this world and activities of earthly perspective.

Ask the Spirit to search your heart and reveal any areas of unconfessed sin. Acknowledge these to the Lord and thank Him for His forgiveness.

Thanksgiving- Our mouths will speak in praise of the Lord!

Praise God For:

- the **SYFW** at Bible Fellowship Church in Gettysburg PA where Shibu Oommen taught 9 people how to share the Gospel.
- **Covenant Ministries, Jermaine, and Paul**; completed the **SYFW** with their youth ministry. Vince Varriale was blessed to be able to give the last two sessions on Zoom with them. This is a fulfillment of prayers for the younger generation to take on the mantle of reaching the lost.
- the new 40 Day Challenge at [EE Prayer Network](#), **Praying the Names of Jesus!**
- the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has reversed its decision to deny a Texas faith-based organization, Christian Engaged, federal tax-exempt status.
- the US States that have enacted a record number (90) pro-life bills in 2021 as the Supreme Court prepares to issue its verdict on the constitutionality of abortion restrictions.

Supplication- The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

- all of the plans and preparations for Congress Of Nations in 2022.
- many on-site prayer warriors to cover each Equip America training.
- all of the plans associated with the **Equip America** on Aug 28th in Manteca CA, Wilmar MN, and Dale City VA. Pray for Pastors to be encouraged and challenged to equip their churches to share the Gospel.
- that Christians will prioritize God's commands to love Him and to love others.
- the TDC Bolivia Training at Seminario Teológico Presbiteriano in Santa Cruz Bolivia July 5 - 31.
- what all You are doing and have done! You are still, and always will be a God of miracles. Open our eyes!
- The marriages within your church family will become all that God designed them to be.
- Israel, that there would be no division in their nation, for Your covering to surround them. Would you guide their every step, and would You grant wisdom in every situation.

- our divided Nation. Division is not from You; we pray against this spirit and pray for unity in America.
- us to be Your hands and feet in this world, may we represent You well, Lord.
- members of your church family to never lose their passion and warmth of their love for Jesus and others.
- EE's partnership with New Life Solutions in developing tracts/questionnaires specific for this critical area of crisis pregnancy counseling and abortion grief recovery.
- for Discovery Week August 2 – 5, this is orientation for EE Missionary Candidates, a time for them to find out more about serving with EE. This is a time for candidates to also prayerfully ask God's will for their lives.

(Share Your Faith Workshop, Everyday Evangelism, Hope For Kids, Mentoring for Multiplication)

SYFW	7/24/21	Bible Baptist Church	Upper Darby PA
SYFW	7/30-31/21	First Baptist Church	Liberty TX
SYFW	7/31/21	New Life Baptist Church	Norlina NC
SYFW	8/11-29-21	Vietnamese Alliance Church	Orlando FL
SYFW	8/18/21	Trinity Lutheran Church	Atchison KS
SYFW	8/21/21	First Baptist Church of Rogers	Rogers AR
SYFW	8/21/21	Destination Church	Fletcher NC
SYFW	8/21/21	Philema Road Baptist Church	Leesburg GA
SYFW	8/21/21	St. Thomas Evangelical Church	Warminster PA
SYFW	9/4/21	First Baptist Church	Clarendon AR
SYFW	9/18/21	Trinity Lutheran Church	Atchison KS
SYFW	9/18/21	Harmony Community Church	Peachland NC
EV2 Launch	8/6 – 8/7	Brookstone	Asheville NC
EV2 Launch	8/19 - 8/20	First Baptist Church	Rodgers AR
MFM	8/13 -14/21	Online	Arden NC