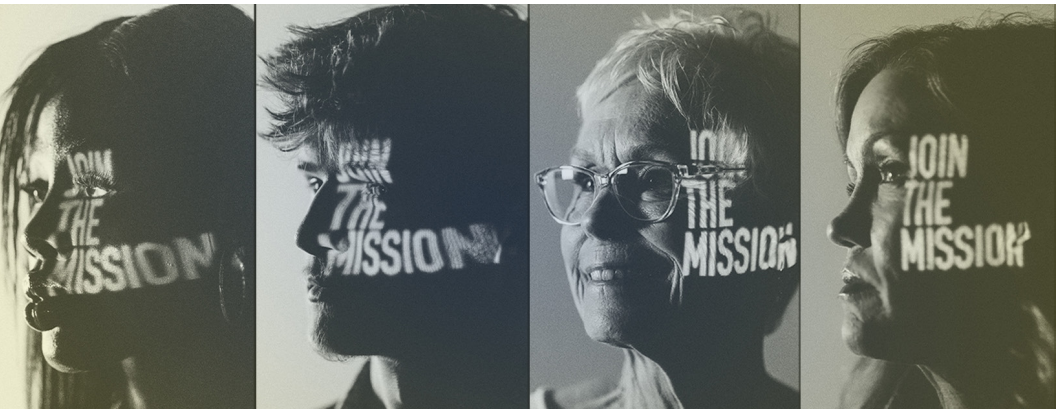


PART 2

CONNECT GUIDE



WALLACE MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Composed By: Chase Campbell
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AS WE BEGIN A READING PLAN

WEEK 4 - SALVATION

- Genesis 3/ Mark 15-16
- Jeremiah 31/Hebrews 8
- Ecclesiastes 3/ Romans 8
- Numbers 21:4-9/ John 3
- Zechariah 2:11 /
Revelation 7:9

WEEK 5 - PRAYER

- 2 Kings 20:1-11
- Luke 18:1-8
- Luke 11:5-13
- Luke 18:9-14
- Luke 11:2-4

WEEK FOUR

DAY 1: GENESIS 3 / MARK 15-16

The coming week will be all about Salvation in our reading plan. Specifically, each day we will take a look at an Old Testament text and see how the prophecies and promises of the Old Testament are fulfilled by the work of Jesus in the New Testament. It's very important that we understand this is one seamless narrative that has always been the same. God wasn't caught by surprise when humans sinned. Jesus was never plan B. Ancient Israel was never offered a different method or path to salvation. The plan of salvation has always been about preparing the world for Jesus, and then spreading the message of what He has done for us.

This will also be the final week of testimonies from church members in our devotional guide. Personal testimonies and stories are an important part of how we share the good news of salvation with the world. So as you read each of these testimonies this week I urge you to take the time and write down your own story. Practice telling it to your friends and family. JOIN THE MISSION by sharing what Jesus has done for you!

DAY 2: JEREMIAH 31 / HEBREWS 8

When my wife and I moved to the area last year, we looked for a church that was not only biblically sound in their teaching but that would give us the opportunity to get involved in study groups, ways to serve, and have a good children's ministry for our son. Wallace has provided us with so many ways to be involved and make connections with others in the church.

Getting involved in a Connect group has proven to be instrumental in helping us feel connected with other people who we can come alongside and do life with. We talk more in depth about the sermon, learn from each other, pray for each other, and rejoice with each other. We have also been able to be part of Discipleship groups. My D-group has given me the opportunity to dive deeper into God's Word with three other men. We meet regularly to study, pray, and hold each other accountable in our walk with Christ. This has challenged me to study God's Word deeper and memorize scripture. Having three men I can confidentially confide in has been instrumental in my growth this year. My wife is also involved in a D-group with three other ladies, and this has been such a blessing to her life.

We have also found ways to serve. I serve on the security team and my wife volunteers in the preschool department. Through volunteering, I have been able to greet people as they enter into the church and get to know families as they bring their children in and out of the children's area. It means a lot to us to be able to serve God by serving His people. Together, we have been able

to attend marriage workshops which have given us a chance to invest in our marriage and meet other couples. Being involved at Wallace has changed our lives. We have made friends, grown deeper in our relationship with God, and now are able to watch as other love on our son and teach him about Jesus.

Austin Mattson, Member of Wallace Campus

DAY 3: ECCLESIAESE 3 / ROMANS 8

Joining the Mission and leading the Cumberland Women's Ministry began as a stirring of the heart and the desire to be part of a women's ministry. Leading it wasn't part of my thought process. Now, looking back over the years, I can see God preparing me through youth missions, godly women as mentors, and a nudging for action that grew stronger over time. When the opportunity came, I honestly said "I will help", but God had His plan.

At first, I felt unqualified. I doubted I had enough knowledge, questioned if I was capable physically, and wondered if my personality was compatible with stepping into a leadership role. So, I prayed about it. The more I prayed about it the more I felt God's assurance: yes, He's calling me. He wasn't asking me to be perfect, He was asking me to be willing, to be courageous, to trust Him and say Yes.

When I answered the call, it wasn't without fear and doubt, but I trusted that God put this on my heart, and He would faithfully see

me through it. By saying yes, He has opened doors for me to serve others, as well as, allowing God to work in my own life. I have learned a deeper dependence on Him and that any event is successful if you are glorifying God. Leading the women's ministry has shown me how beautiful it is when women of faith come together celebrating victories, sharing burdens, and growing together in faith. My comfort zone has expanded and my prayer life deepened. I've witnessed God's faithfulness repeatedly in every event organized. He uses ordinary women, including me, to bring hope, healing, and encouragement to each other.

Leading the Cumberland Women's Ministry has been one of the greatest blessings of my life. My faith has been strengthened, fears calmed, knowledge expanding, and best of all my circle of sisters in Christ is ever growing. All because I had a willing heart and simply said "Yes" to joining the mission.

DAY 4: NUMBERS 21:4-9 / JOHN 3

To me, being involved in church missions isn't really an option since God tells us to go! It isn't a request. I feel like serving others is one way I can bless others & blessing others blesses me! I also get to establish relationships with others who I would not have had the opportunity to meet were I not serving through missions. By going on mission trips, I can hopefully inspire others to do the same.

God has been so good to me, the least I can do is let my little light shine for Him.

Our Local outreach efforts have been a great blessing to me because I get to meet folks less fortunate than me, give them a smile & a warm hello, invite them to church & pray for them. These may seem like small gestures, but when we are serving the Lord, He is able to use everything for His glory.

Connie Kennedy, Member of Riverview Campus

DAY 5: ZECHARIAH 2:11 / REVELATION 7:9

I got baptized about 2 years ago, and it has led to a very positive outcome in my life. Being a servant of God has made my life turn out for the better. While it is not without some personal battles, I have been given conviction and love for God. I would say that my baptism was the pinnacle moment in my life. All else pales in comparison, and my testimony reflects that.

However, not everything is easy. God gives me convictions I did not have before my salvation. I sometimes fail, but I go to Him in repentance and ask for help, guidance, and forbearance for these tasks. Ultimately, I could not do it by myself but only through Him. I did not sign up for an easy task. I signed up for a life-long journey of sanctification. It is hard to leave the habits of the world, but it is the best for me and my relationship with God.

In conclusion, this is a testimony of a life renewed in Christ's love. I have been given a mission, Matthew 28:19-20 says to spread the Gospel to all nations, to baptize them, and tell them the Word so that they obey Him. That is my goal in life, to lead people to God; all else does not matter, for that is our mission. Glory to God in the highest (Gloria in excelsis Deo)!

Samuel Roach, Member of Cumberland Campus

DISCUSSION GUIDE: AUGUST 24, 2025

WEEK FOUR: SALVATION

This week our reading plan showed us how the New Testament brought fulfillment to the Old Testament prophecies about Salvation. We saw that the path to Salvation was a grand and precisely planned story from the very beginning, and everything points to Jesus as the central figure of that story. Today your campus pastor will present how deeply necessary it was for God to intervene and save us, as well as how we're called to spread the good news of this salvation to all the Earth.

ACTION STEP _____

How will I live out the action step this week?

CONNECT DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: SALVATION

- Have you ever been lost? Perhaps you needed directions on how to get somewhere, or maybe you reached a step in a project where you couldn't figure out what to do next. What did that feel like? How did you eventually decide where to go or what to do?
- 2 Tim 3:16 gives us a list of the things Scripture is supposed to guide us in. Teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness. What are specific examples of verses that could be used for each of these? Where would you have the opportunity to do each of these things on your campus?
- Scripture was written to a specific audience, by a specific author, at a specific time. Collectively, we call these things context. Why is understanding context so important in how we approach Scripture? What happens when we take Scripture out of context?
- What is your plan for reading Scripture? Do you use a devotional book? Follow a reading log? Share your preferred method of discipline with the class so they can have new ideas! How can we hold each other accountable for being consistent in our Bible reading?

WEEK FIVE

DAY 1: 2 KINGS 20:1-11

This week will focus exclusively on prayer. Each day you will receive prayer points to go through a specific topic. As you prepare to participate in this week, I'd also ask you to consider what methods or disciplines you use to focus and structure your prayer. For most of us, we start to pray, but then we are distracted by a random thought of an upcoming event or task, then before we know it our minds are wandering and we're thinking about chicken nuggets and youtube videos... again. (OK, that's a little specific, so maybe that's just me.)

To overcome the pitfall of our easily distracted minds, we have to treat prayer as a discipline, while also respecting it as a relational act with God Himself. Some people use acronyms to help stay on track, while others prefer a prayer journal or even an accountability partner. Our Bible app has several guided prayer options, there are a number of books written to help you, and if that isn't enough you're always welcome to contact us at the church and ask what you can pray for today. Regardless of which method you choose, I hope you commit yourself to praying daily, knowing God better, and trusting that He listens because He cares.

DAY 2: LUKE 18:1-8

Today we will be praying for some of our mission partners here in the United States. They have dedicated their lives to making sure each and every person across this country has access to a local church and a place to worship. They have made many sacrifices and taken on a multitude of challenges to share the Gospel with the local culture of their new locations. So join me in praying for them and thanking God for their dedication to His Kingdom.

Joseph and Carissa Smyly- Livingston, Montana

- They recently had a new baby so pray they get some sleep
- They are serving with Expedition Church. Pray that the church is able to make connections in the community.
- Pray for Joseph and Carissa to have opportunities to share the Gospel with the people of Montan.

Trenton Mueller- Los Angeles, California

- Trenton hosts a number of mission teams throughout the year. Pray for him and he helps them learn about evangelism.
- Pray for The Abiding Church where Trenton is pastor.
- Pray for Trenton to have new opportunities to share the Gospel and invite people to help support his church plant.

DAY 3: LUKE 11:5-13

For today's prayer time I'd like you to focus on your "one." Now, some of you might read that last sentence and be a little confused. Your "one" is a person that you've specifically selected to pray for, develop a relationship with, and engage with Gospel conversations. Your one is the person you are focused on bringing to Christ. Not as a project, but as a real caring friendship. If you don't have someone you're focused on then begin by praying that God would show you who you should be witnessing to and building that trust with.

- Pray that you would have the opportunity to have regular contact with your one.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would convict them of their need for Jesus.
- Pray that they would trust you with the hard questions about life.
- Pray that you would have the opportunity to be there for that person in their time of need.
- Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to let your conduct and your care be a powerful witness to them.
- Pray specifically that your one would come to a saving knowledge of Jesus.

DAY 4: PSALM 139

Within our Wallace family of churches we have specific language congregations. The Bible says that we are called to reach "Every tribe, tongue, and nation" so we are making a special effort to preach the Gospel in every language we can. Our language congregations have many unique challenges, so we want to pray for them specifically.

- Pray for Pastor Vitale and Pastor Orlando and they work diligently each week to prepare sermons in their own languages.
- Pray for Iglesia Knox and the Romanian Baptist Congregation as they navigate bridging the gap between different cultures.
- Pray for the people in Knoxville who speak Spanish and Romanian. That they would be drawn by the Holy Spirit to be involved in a local church.
- Pray that the members of our language congregations would have opportunities to practice evangelism in their respective languages.

DAY 5: PSALM 136

Today I'm going to ask you to pray for yourself. Sometimes when life gets busy we can fall into a mindless cycle of any habit. Prayer can definitely be one of those habits we do mindlessly. Today I want you to pray for yourself in a way that's entirely different. Before you do that, I want you to do something even more difficult. I want you to take a few minutes of introspection and really reflect on your spiritual condition. Ask the Holy Spirit to convict you about the places where you've just been

going through the motions. Pray that He would send you good friends who are able to call you out when you mess up. Ask God to show you where you've perhaps confused your culture or your preferences with real Christianity. It's only after doing something so difficult that we will be truly ready to hear from God.

- Pray that God would convict you of your sin and remind you of your need for Him.
- Pray that you would see yourself through the eyes of the Holy Spirit.
- Thank God for hearing your prayers and being willing to know you.
- Thank Him for revealing Himself to us so that we can understand even a small portion of His greatness.
- Pray that God would show you where you need to be serving in the church and helping with a specific ministry.
- Thank God for sending Jesus so that you could be saved.

DISCUSSION GUIDE: AUGUST 31, 2025

WEEK FIVE: PRAYER

This week we read a number of passages about prayer, and you were given daily prompts of things to pray through. As you reflect on your week and prepare for our service today, think on how your discipline in prayer changed your day to day perspective. Today's service will be very different as we will be led through numerous topics of guided prayer. It may be uncomfortable for you at first, but leaning into this process will ultimately be very rewarding and help you progress in your understanding and discipline of prayer.

ACTION STEP _____

How will I live out the action step this week?

CONNECT DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: PRAYER

- Was it kinda weird? The whole prayer service thing? Did the format for our day of prayer challenge you?
- As a group, spend several minutes in prayer asking for opportunities for your Connect group to serve the rest of your campus. Pray that those opportunities would become obvious and that you would have the courage to see them through.
- Split up into sub groups of 3 or 4. Share with the subgroup about your life. What are the difficulties and victories that they can pray about? What things can each of you follow up on with your group next week?
- How are you going to continue working on the discipline of prayer this coming week? Make a plan and ask someone else in the group to hold you accountable.

