

11-05-23 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“Our connectedness to one another in God rests on the foundation of all those who have gone before us as believers—a lineage of saints stretching back to Jesus’ first disciples, those without whose witness to God’s mighty deeds we would not ourselves be disciples.”

- Jonathan Maury



1 Thessalonians 2:9-13 ✠ Matthew 23:1-12

Questions for Reflection —

- What is your spiritual lineage? Who has nurtured you in your faith? Who are your role models in living a life of Christian discipleship? What impact have those role models had on your life? How are you embodying the example of Jesus’ teachings and life in a way that carries forward the lineage of everyday saints? How can we as a congregation bear witness to the gospel in the face of the challenges of our place and time?

- How does the tension between love and law play out in your faith life? In the life of our congregation? Where/how do you see evidence for double standards within the church? What are the ways hypocrisy manifests in institutional religion? How can we be honest about the shortcomings of faith communities today? What do we as a congregation need in order to live into the ideal of the church as a community of brothers and sisters in Christ?

- What does it look like for you to lead a life worthy of God? In what ways are you falling short? What will help you to continue to grow in knowledge of God's ways and then to live into them? What does it mean for God’s word to be at work in a person’s life? How is God’s word presently at work in you?

Daily Household Prayer

We bless your holy name, O God, for all your servants who, having finished their course, now rest from their labors. Give us grace to follow the example of their steadfastness and faithfulness, to your honor and glory; through Christ Jesus. Amen.