

03-23-25 FOR THE JOURNEY THIS WEEK

“God’s greatest gift to us is time. And what is our time for? To become ourselves, to produce fruit.”

James C. Howell



Psalm 63:1-8 + Luke 13:6-9

Questions for Reflection —

- Have you ever felt yourself distanced from God? What was that like? Where are the dry and barren places in your life currently? What does it mean to thirst for God? For what are you yearning in your relationship with God? What will help you focus your yearnings away from the things of the world and toward the things of God? How can you re-center your values and expectations on your relationship with God?

- What does it look like for you to bear spiritual fruit? What fruit helps those you encounter know that you are a follower of Jesus? What hinders or interferes with your bearing fruit for the kingdom of God? What spiritual nourishment do you need in order to bear more fruit? What in the life of our congregation needs special tending so that we can bear more fruit for God’s kingdom in our world? How can we cultivate our life together in order to grow into new life and new possibilities?

- What does it mean to you that God is willing to give you another chance when you fall short? How have you known God’s grace and mercy throughout your life? In what ways has God given you another chance? Is there some aspect of your life of Christian discipleship in which you presently need another chance? How can you in turn follow the example of Jesus and extend forgiveness instead of judgment so someone in your life?

Daily Household Prayer (A Prayer of Susanna Wesley)

You, O Lord, have called us to watch and pray. Therefore, whatever may be the sin against which we pray, make us careful to watch against it, and so have reason to expect that our prayers will be answered. In order to perform this duty aright, grant us grace to preserve a sober, equal temper, and sincerity to pray for your assistance. Amen.