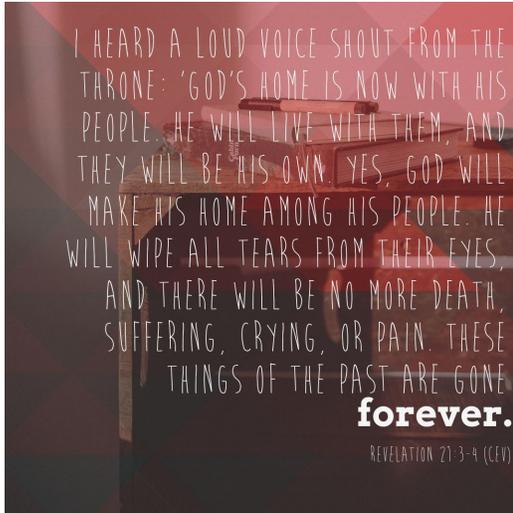


ME TIME

October 1-6, 2018



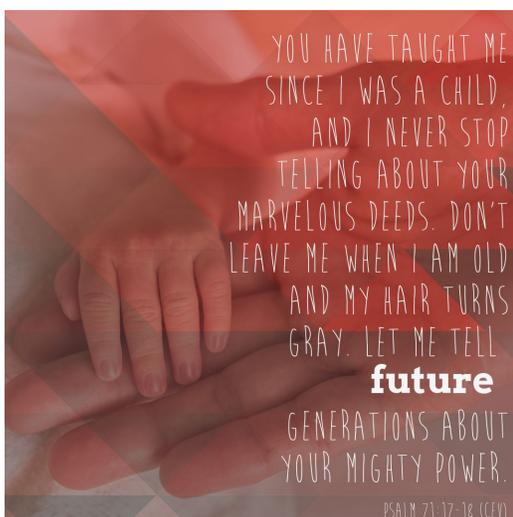
Monday October 1

"I heard a loud voice shout from the throne: 'God's home is now with his people. He will live with them, and they will be his own. Yes, God will make his home among his people. He will wipe all tears from their eyes, and there will be no more death, suffering, crying, or pain. These things of the past are gone forever.'" (Revelation 21:3-4 CEV)
Hear from God // Revelation is a pretty strange book of the Bible that makes for some creepy apocalyptic stories that show up in our culture. Most of the time in those stories humans are trying to prevent the end of the world, but what we really see in Revelation is that the end of this world is the start of a new and better world *with* God. Not only that, that new world will be free of the worst parts of our current world. That's God's promise for God's people and it can give us hope in the darkest parts of our stories.



Tuesday October 2

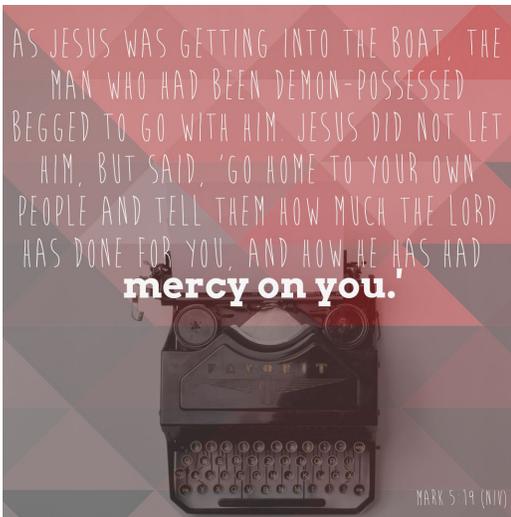
"Come and set up your kingdom, so that everyone on earth will obey you, as you are obeyed in heaven." (Matthew 6:10 CEV)
Pray to God // We often say the Lord's Prayer in old language that may not always make sense to us. What is Jesus really teaching us to pray? Jesus is teaching us to welcome God's Kingdom here on earth so that earth will look more like heaven. And if you read yesterday's passage from Revelation, you know that's exactly the plan. Jesus is teaching us that prayer is an opportunity to help align ourselves with God and what God wants, not us trying to get God to give us what we want. This is why prayer is an incredibly powerful first step if we want to choose God's story over our story. If you are willing, let God know that you are ready to obey and seek God's story first and then listen over the next couple of days for a next step from God.



Wednesday October 3

"You have taught me since I was a child, and I never stop telling about your marvelous deeds. Don't leave me when I am old and my hair turns gray. Let me tell future generations about your mighty power." (Psalm 71:17-18 CEV)
Talk about God // We have the faith we have today because of generations of people sharing their stories about God and how ordinary people like us found themselves in God's story. We can learn from the stories of generations ahead of us and we can also teach the generations behind us! Ask someone older than you about where they have seen God in their story

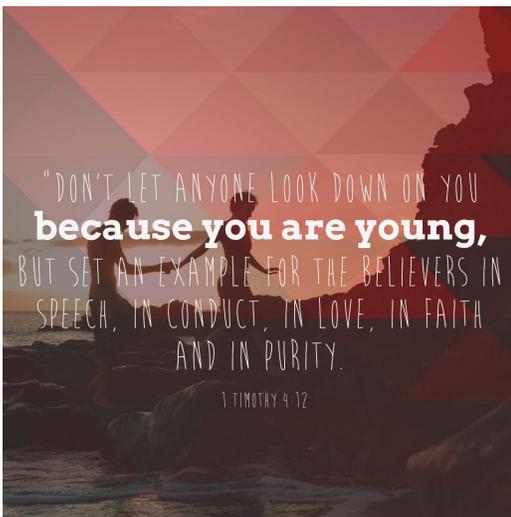
and look for an opportunity to share with someone younger than you how you have seen God at work in your story.



Thursday October 4

"As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. Jesus did not let him, but said, 'Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.'" (Mark 5:19 NIV)

Live for God // In the story from which these verses are taken, Jesus heals a man and he then begs Jesus to be allowed to become one of Jesus' disciples. But Jesus has other plans and tells the man to return to his hometown and share his story of being healed with them. Our stories are such huge gifts to us, but they're also meant for others! Always being ready to share our stories of what God has done for us is a great way to live out our faith.



Friday October 5

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." (1 Timothy 4:12 NIV)

Hear God's Call // Have you ever considered that others in our church or community might be looking up to you? Many scholars believe that Jesus' disciples were teenagers and history shows us that some of the most impactful movements within Christianity were started on college campuses. Don't think you have to wait to be an adult before you respond to God's call on your life. Listen for God now and respond now: your passion and energy can be an inspiration to all of Christ's Church!



Saturday October 6

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed. Yes, speak up for the poor and helpless, and see that they get justice." (Proverbs 31:8-9 NLT)

Seek God's Justice // What if there is another story besides your own that you need to tell? There are lots of people who cannot speak for themselves and God has called on us to help them *and* share their stories. When we think about social justice, we often think about *doing* something. But we can also serve the poor and those in need by sharing their stories and the stories of how God and God's people can come to their aid.