



but those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles;
they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.

ISAIAH 40:31

BINA BANGSA SCHOOL KJ

DAILY MORNING DEVOTION

WEEK 5

MONDAY

Scripture Reading — Numbers 1:1-4

The Lord spoke to Moses . . . in the Desert of Sinai on the first day of the second month of the second year after the Israelites came out of Egypt.

The book of Numbers begins with a reference to the Israelites' coming out of Egypt, where they had been slaves for many years (see Exodus 1-14). Thirteen months had passed since then, and many miles of wilderness lay ahead before they would enter the land God had promised to their ancestor Abraham (Genesis 13:14-18).

The people had been camped at Sinai for more than a year. And soon God would get them moving again toward the promised land. How would they survive in the wilderness journey ahead? They needed to remember that God had delivered them out of slavery, and that they were God's people. God had rescued them, and he would not abandon them in the wilderness. God had delivered them and would bring them to the land he had promised.

When life is difficult, we must remember that God has delivered us too. By sending his Son, Jesus Christ, God has freed us from our slavery to sin and death. Jesus died to pay the price for our sin. Through him, we are saved and given new life to enjoy with God forever.

We may experience troubles in life. At times, life can even seem like a desert, but God reminds us that we belong to him because of his salvation in Christ. He has delivered us from sin and death; he will not abandon us in the wilderness. If you find yourself in the wilderness, put your hope in God, who will carry you through.

TUESDAY

Scripture Reading — Colossians 1:3-14

He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves...

In the change of seasons, springtime brings longer days and shorter nights. So, in a sense, as we move from winter into spring and summer, we leave behind days of darkness as each day brings more light.

The apostle Paul often uses the image of light and dark to talk about our spiritual condition. The point here is that we are not only delivered out of something but are also brought into something as well.

As followers of Jesus, we are transferred into the kingdom of light. We “share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.” Light often symbolizes glory, truth, holiness, and life. It has to do with the authority and sovereign rule of the King. Because of Christ’s work to save us from sin, we are no longer in the dominion of darkness. We are freed to live fully in the precious, grace-filled, compassionate, and loving rule of Christ. Christ shares this kingdom with us.

C.S Lewis once said, “We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with worldly ambitions when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.”

Today, let yourself be rescued, and enjoy the life of light that Jesus offers. Then share that light with others!

WEDNESDAY

Scripture Reading — Micah 6:1-4

Everyone who sins is a slave to sin. — John 8:34

The exodus from Egypt was a pivotal event in Israel's history. The prophets and psalmists refer to it often. For the people of Israel it brought an end to over 400 years of slavery.

It's surprising, then, that the Pharisees said to Jesus, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" (John 8:33). They prided themselves on their ancestry, and to them slavery was just something in their people's distant past. In Jesus' teaching, Israel's slavery in Egypt was a symbol of slavery to sin, a problem for every person in all times.

Even the Israelites in Micah's day felt that God somehow cramped their style. The Lord asked them, "My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me. I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery."

Many people today, when offered the gift of freedom from sin and release from death to life, prefer the "freedom" to engage in any kind of behavior they desire. Even while dragging chains of sin, some think they can save the world. But, as Jesus said to the Pharisees, unless we believe in him we will die in our sins (John 8:24). Only in Christ can we be set free from slavery to sin and death.

How about you? Are you a slave to your sins and addictions, or have you been set free through faith in Jesus Christ?

THURSDAY

Scripture Reading — 1 John 4:7-21

No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. — 1 John 4:12

The first thing to do when solving a word problem in mathematics is to figure out what exactly the problem is asking. We must figure out what information is given and what is not. What are the constants that never change and what are the variables? One of the secrets to setting up the problem is to know how specific words are used in the language of math. For instance, the word “is” means “equals,” and when you see the word “is,” you know you can set up an equation in which the parts equal each other. That’s very helpful to know!

In this passage on love, the apostle John sets up a simple, beautiful, and yet remarkably complex equation: *God is love*. And this helps us understand what it means to live into the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The story of the relationship between God and creation is a story of love. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus tally up to the ultimate embodiment of love. And when we seek to live into the resurrection, we embody that love as well. God’s love frees us to live out that love in relationship with one another.

There is no fear in love. There is no shame in love. God and love can never be separated. This is the constant that will never change.

In what ways can you live out God’s love today?