

Allelon Sunday School for July 1, 2007

Opening Prayer

Responsive Reading: Psalm 16

1 Protect me, O God,

for in you I take refuge.

2 I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;

I have no good apart from you."

3 As for the holy ones in the land,

they are the noble, in whom is all my delight.

4 Those who choose another god multiply
their sorrows;

*their drink offerings of blood I will not pour
out or take their names upon my lips.*

5 The LORD is my chosen portion and my
cup;

you hold my lot.

6 The boundary lines have fallen for me in
pleasant places;

I have a goodly heritage.

7 I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;

in the night also my heart instructs me.

8 I keep the LORD always before me;

*because he is at my right hand, I shall not be
moved.*

9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul
rejoices;

my body also rests secure.

10 For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.

11 You show me the path of life. In your
presence there is fullness of joy;

in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Stand as Leader Reads Luke 9:51-62

Move to Building Groups

**After Building Groups time, Leader Reads 2
Kings 2:1-14**

Closing Prayer

The Week's Preparation

Each day's Scripture readings are now
available automatically from
<http://www.bogartchristian.org> for your
reading.

As you say your prayers each morning or
evening (or, even better, both), try to use
phrases from the Scriptures in your prayers
and to pray for the people who were in your
Building Group this week.

Extra Innings

If you answer all of the questions on the other side
of this sheet before 10:45, take a few minutes to
talk about some of these questions.

1. Look at the first verse of the invitation
hymn in today's bulletin. As a group,
decide what the words mean and to what
the song invites people.
2. Look at the bulletin insert for the
paragraph that we recite before we take
communion. Look at the last sentence
particularly. What are the goals of
communion, according to this sentence?
How does communion connect with those
things?
3. What is the title of today's sermon? Since
it's about the same text that you read as a
group, look back at the text and try to
guess what Ben is going to talk about in
today's sermon.
4. What are the people in your building
group planning to do after worship today?
How do they usually spend their Sunday
afternoons and evenings?
5. What worship songs have been your
favorites in the last few weeks? Tell each
other about why you like them.

Building Group Discussion

Get together with everyone in your Building Group. Come up with five things that make people the maddest in the world, and then a list of five things that people are most reluctant to give up. Talk a bit about each item—why does that in particular make people so emotional? Write your lists of items below.

Story time!

Go through as many of these as you can before 10:35:

1. Someone older than twenty, tell a story about a road trip you've taken. What kinds of people did you run into at gas stations? At restaurants? In other places? Be sure to tell everyone about the nicest person and the meanest person you met on your trip. Everyone else, ask questions about the trip.
2. Someone younger than twenty, tell a story about a trip to a zoo or a farm or anywhere with animals too big to live in a normal house. What were they doing when you saw them? What things were you allowed to do with the animals? What things weren't you allowed to do? Why? Everyone else, ask questions.
3. Someone other than those two, tell a story about someone who suddenly got new power, be that power a growth spurt, a promotion at work, a windfall of money, or whatever. How did the person change? Everyone else, ask the person about the details of the situation.
4. Someone else still, tell a story about a time when you were invited somewhere but couldn't because of some other responsibility. Did you regret not being able to go? Why? Were you a better person for keeping your responsibility, or would you have been better off going with the inviter? Everyone else, ask questions.

The Crawl: Luke 9:51-62

Answer these as a group. If you don't understand, talk with your group until everyone has a grasp on it. When someone says something that makes you think of a question, ASK THE QUESTION OUT LOUD!

1. In the gospel of Luke, Jesus' journey to Jerusalem for the triumphal entry and crucifixion and resurrection takes up about ten chapters. This passage begins that journey, and these are the first three encounters Jesus has on that journey. Why do you think Luke spends so much time on that journey? (Use your imagination!)
2. Jesus has encountered some Samaritans already; why do you think that His disciples get so angry at this Samaritan village? What does it mean that Jesus rebuked them? (Grownups, help out here.)
3. What is the question at hand when Jesus speaks his famous "Foxes have holes" speech? What kind of answer is this to the situation?
4. Jesus tells a man to come with him at once without burying his father. Doesn't he have any respect for those who came before? Look at the commandment that Jesus gives him. Why does Jesus call live people dead? This encounter is a very, very difficult one. Take some time among yourselves to discuss it, and make a promise to each other to pay attention to how Ben addresses it in his sermon. After church, keep your promise.
5. In the last couple verses of the passage, Jesus says something equally difficult. Why does Jesus do these things? Again, take at least a few minutes to let three or four people in the group say why Jesus might have said this, then listen carefully for how the sermon treats it.
6. If Jesus were to roll through downtown Bogart this afternoon and call you off the street (and you were on the street at the moment—work with me here), what would you most hate to leave behind to follow him? Do you think you would do it?

Return to the sanctuary by 10:45, but only after you've really dug into those questions!