



# grow. pray. serve.

Reveille UMC Weekly Guide

October 26-November 1, 2020

## All Saints Day

Sermon by Rev. Stephen Coleman

Sermon Title: *“The Good Place”*

Notes from sermon on 10/25:

Things to Pray For This Week:

### Family Focus Question:

Define the word “saint” and talk about the saints who have impacted your life.

### Questions for Small Groups

- 1) Jesus is not mentioned in this passage. Instead, the name Lamb is used.  
Why is that?
- 2) Have you read the book of Revelation?  
What do you know about it and how do you feel about it?
- 3) What does this passage say to you about heaven and how does this vision of heaven impact your life now?

### Monday, October 26: Read Revelation 7:9-17

It is difficult to say with clarity what the afterlife looks like. We tend to speak of it broadly and with allegorical language. But, there are some things we can highlight about life after death. During this Pandemic, all of us may be thinking a bit more about our own mortality. Revelation is a difficult book to read and raises all sorts of emotions for us. Today, it gives a glimpse of heaven as a place where we worship before God. It is a place we find because of the Lamb who leads us to the waters of life. It is a place of inclusivity; a place with no more tears, hunger, thirst. It is a place of shelter and life. As we prepare this week for All Saints Day, we will focus on this glimpse of heaven from Revelation and how this vision impacts us in the here and now.

**Tuesday, October 27: Read Joshua 3:7-17**

Today's story of Joshua and the Israelites crossing the river Jordan into the Promised Land clearly shows two things: God is always with us, and God uses leaders to show us God's presence, guidance, and power. Joshua and the priests carried the ark across the river into a land that held both threat and promise. We might feel the same way today. In a time when our future seems so unclear, knowing that God is always with us gives us hope. Looking for the people who are carrying this message can give us guidance and direction. Who are the people who have "carried the ark" for us in our lives? Where are they today?

**Wednesday, October 28: Read Matthew 5:1-12**

Let Jesus's familiar and powerful words from the Sermon on the Mount wash over us today, giving us peace. Let them go before us to give us focus and our moral compass. Let them fill us to give us energy and passion. Let them invade our minds to give us memories of the saints who went before us. Even in these upside down, ever-changing times, the truth and eternity of Christ's words ring true. The meek, merciful, pure, righteous, and peacemaking will always stand the test of history while those who hate, divide, ignore, and persecute will fade from memory.

**Thursday, October 29: Read 1 John 3:1-3**

Today's incredible words show us that there is no "us" versus "them" in God's family – we are all God's children. We are all created for good works and all made for sainthood. In addition to recognizing the saints in our lives, let us recognize the sainthood in ourselves. Let us recognize the sainthood in the other imperfect people in our lives and community who are also beloved, perfectly created children of our common Father. Where do we most need this paradigm shift today?

**Friday, October 30: Read Psalm 34:1-10, 22**

The psalm we read today gives us an incredible guide for both recognizing sainthood in others and more fully modeling it in ourselves. It is a life spent blessing the Lord at all times, looking to God, and tasting and seeing that the Lord is good. Where can we more fully bless God in our words and actions? Where can we recognize God and taste and see God's goodness? With whom can we share this goodness?

**Saturday, October 31: Scripture Memorization: Matthew 5:12a**

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven."

**Sunday, November 1: Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship in praying our Prayer of Common Confession:** *O Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have not always taken upon ourselves the yoke of obedience, nor been willing to seek and to do your perfect will. We have not loved you with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, neither have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. You have called us in the need of our brothers and sisters and we have passed unheeding on our way. In the pride of our hearts and our unwillingness to repent, we have turned from the cross of Christ and have grieved your Holy Spirit. Forgive us O Lord. Revive us and reshape us in your image. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.*