

Week 2  
28 Feb - 6 March 2021

## SMALL GROUP WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL



# What CHURCH is all ABOUT

LECTIONARY YEAR B  
17 Feb 2021 - 3 April 2021

Daily Bible readings, a memory verse and a prayer for individual contemplation  
Weekly worship song, reflection and small group questions

### THIS WEEK AND UPCOMING WEEKS:

Lectionary year B - Lent and Holy Week – 17 Feb to 3 April

WEEK 2	Sunday 28 February to Saturday 6 March – What Church is all about – Gavin Landers
WEEK 3	Sunday 7 March to Saturday 13 March – Jesus clears the temple courts – Kedibone Mntambo
WEEK 4	Sunday 14 March to Saturday 20 March – God loved the world – Xhanti Mblubulwana
WEEK 5	Sunday 21 March to Saturday 27 March – Jesus predicts His death – Thoko Mbense
WEEK 6	Sunday 28 March (Palm Sunday) to Saturday 3 April (Holy Week) – The death of Jesus – Lusi Badi

**WEEK 2:**  
**What Church is all  
about**  
Sunday 28 February to Saturday  
6 March



START YOUR DAY WITH  
*Devotionals Daily*

Monday

1 March

Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45

Genesis 21:1-7

Hebrews 1:8-12

**Memory verse:** "You remain the same, and your years will never end." (Heb 1:12)

**Prayer:** Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son; for your everlasting power, goodness and love to be so richly offered to us through Him. May we know of His presence with us always. May we know something of his power, goodness and love today, and more fully in our tomorrows. Amen.

Tuesday	2 March	Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45	Genesis 22:1-19	Hebrews 11:1-3, 13-19
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**Memory verse:** Long for a better country - a heavenly one. (Heb 11:16)

**Prayer:** Father your Word speaks of people who have gone before us living with confidence in the things the hope for and with assurance about things they could not even see. Give us this faith, we pray, as we live in this world with the hope and the assurance of every unseen reality of Your Kingdom to come. Amen

Wednesday	3 March	Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45	Jeremiah 30:12-22	John 12:36-43
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**Memory verse:** "So you will be my people, and I will be your God." (Jer 30:22)

**Prayer:** Almighty God, we praise you for being a compassionate God who offers restoration to us even when we are the cause of the damage and harm found in our lives and the lives of others. Thank you for offering the very best life to each one of us - us as your people and you as our God. Amen

Thursday	4 March	Psalm 19	Exodus 19:1-9a	1 Peter 2:4-10
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**Memory verse:** You will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. (Ex 19:6)

**Prayer:** Father You call us to be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. Help us live in Your light so that we can do this. Help us also to offer Your light into those places in the world that need it. May we be points of contact where Your light meets the people of this world. Amen

Friday	5 March	Psalm 19	Exodus 19:9b-15	Acts 7:30-40
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**Memory verse:** God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your own people. (Acts 7:37)

**Prayer:** Father forgive us in those times when Your words spoken through Your messengers are rejected by us. We thank you for their bold delivery of the words You give them; words that will always deliver us from the bondage of sin, limited living and ignorance; words that will set us free and direct us to Your promised land; words of life. Help us to hear these words so that we may never turn back to our states of bondage. Amen

Saturday	6 March	Psalm 19	Exodus 19:16-25	Mark 9:2-8
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**Memory verse:** "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" (Mark 9:7)

**Prayer:** Father, may our experience of Jesus also be one where He is elevated above all other historical figures and teachings in our traditions. May we learn to listen to Him above any other voice, knowing that when all other voices have run their course and fallen silent, the voice of the One you dearly love will remain. Praise be to You oh God. Amen

## Sunday 28 February

*First Reading:* [Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16](#)

*Psalms:* [Psalm 22:23-31](#)

*Second Reading:* [Romans 4:13-25](#)

*Gospel:* [Mark 9:2-13](#)



### Mark 9:2-13

<sup>2</sup> After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. <sup>3</sup> His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters - one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup> (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) <sup>7</sup> Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" <sup>8</sup> Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. <sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. <sup>10</sup> They kept the matter to themselves, discussing what "rising from the dead" meant. <sup>11</sup> And they asked him, "Why do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?" <sup>12</sup> Jesus replied, "To be sure, Elijah does come first, and restores all things. Why then is it written that the Son of Man must suffer much and be rejected? <sup>13</sup> But I tell you, Elijah has come, and they have done to him everything they wished, just as it is written about him."

## WORSHIP

Worship Song: [May We be a Shining Light - Divine Hymns - Lyrics Video - YouTube](#)

## FOR REFLECTION:

DAILY DEVOTIONS, REFLECTIONS AND SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS WRITTEN BY REV GAVIN LANDERS

**Mark 9:2-13** This passage clarifies what the church is all about. While Peter expresses a desire to cocoon himself into a holy huddle that makes no reference to the outside world (v5), Jesus leads them down the mountain (v9) to heal the sick, save the lost and give themselves away to the world for the benefit of humankind. We as the church have no lesser task. If the church is to be true to its calling and remain relevant and alive, then the safety of the cocoon must necessarily be followed by exposure to the world.



## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS:

1. Share a time in your church experience where you wished you could freeze time and live out that moment forever?
2. Respond to the comment that "To stay cocooned means death for the church." Make some assessment of the church in the light of this statement.
3. What do you think Jesus leading his disciples down the mountain to heal the sick, save the lost and give ourselves away to the world for the benefit of humankind looks like for you as the church today?



It is important for parents to take time to lead the conversations of family time and to be honest with their children in these conversations.

BY THABANG JANUARY – YOUTH PASTOR  
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**Pray daily:** Set up family time for prayer and devotions and stick to this arrangement. All devotions should always begin by with a prayer. Ask a family member to pray or one of the children.

**Scripture Reading:** Mark 9:2-13

Allow children/teens to read out loud for the family.

**Activity/Family Moment:**

Make a prayer list for the fridge. Everyone in the family add people to the list: to be prayed for every day. Individual requests can also be added. Make it colourful and fun (maybe even use photos).

## Next Week...

WEEK 3: JESUS CLEARS THE TEMPLE COURTS

Kedibone Mntambo

Sunday 7 March to Saturday 13 March



Contact NADJA to join a small group near you! [nadja@bmc.org.za](mailto:nadja@bmc.org.za) / 011463 2333