



THE PATH

For the week of September 25 Canyon Lake United Methodist Church

“Three Simple Rules: Stay in Love with God”

The object of John Wesley's three general rules is to enable each of us and all of us to live an engaged life of faith every day. “Do no harm.” and “Do good.” are what we DO, but “Stay in love with God.” has a lot more to do with who we ARE. We are a people who live in the love of God.

Prayer: Loving Teacher, come and make your home in our hearts this day. Dwell within us all day long and save us from error or foolish ways. Teach us today to do no harm, to do good, and assist us so that we may stay in loving relationship with you and our neighbor. Help us today to be an answer to another's prayer so that we may be one of your signs of hope in the world you love. Amen.

Monday 9/26 “Make it a habit” Colossians 2: 6-10

Read “Three Simple Rules” pp. 53-55a

The NRSV version in verse 7 says, “Be rooted and built up in Christ.” Imagine an old tree that has survived and thrived for generations. It is deeply rooted and has matured with those roots finding the water and nutrients deep down. This is our faith. As we mature... as we ripen in Christ's love... we develop deep roots. How do you see yourself as rooted in God's power and Christ's love?

Tuesday 9/27 “Do you love me?” John 21:1-15

Read “Three Simple Rules” pp. 55b-5

In abandoning Jesus at the time of his trial and crucifixion, Peter denied Christ three times. On this day the disciples were all caught off guard by the appearance of Jesus on the shore. They

were so surprised and taken aback that they could not even ask him who he was for sure. Peter was drawn into intimate conversation with Jesus, and the first question asked was, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” Peter was challenged to define his relationship with Jesus, and so are we. How would you describe your relationship with Jesus Christ?

Wednesday 9/28 “Follow me” John 21:15-19

Read “Three Simple Rules” pp. 59-61a

Three times Peter denied Jesus. Three times Jesus asked Peter if he loved him. As Peter squirmed, Jesus kept pressing him. Jesus invites him back into the fold and ends by saying, “Follow me.” Time and again in scripture we are told to follow. In your life, how is it that you intentionally make the choices that help you follow God's will over the span of years?

Thursday 9/29 “Living faith every day” Psalm 105: 1-4

Read “Three Simple Rules” pp. 61b-63

Seek God's face always... on a daily basis. What are the greatest distractions you face? What is it that keeps you from living a daily walk with God?

Friday 9/30 “Stay in love with God” Luke 24:13-35

Read “Three Simple Rules” - Review the chapter

The story is the Walk to Emmaus. This story was one of the very first told to the early disciples to give them an understanding that Jesus was resurrected and that the walk with him continued... literally. When you look around at people you admire because of the way they live their faith, what is it that you can see in their lives that you could adopt and make part of your long term walk with Christ?

Saturday 10/1 “Living the Rules Daily”

Read “Three Simple Rules” pp. 65-77

The book actually gives you resources in these pages for living the rules on a daily basis. Today's devotion is not intended to be the end but rather the beginning of this walk. What have been the most important things you have learned in these last three weeks? How will you continue?