



WEEK 2: ROOM IN YOUR HEART

Opening Prayer: God, we invite you in today, where you already are, among us. We make room in our hearts, in our minds, in our conversation for you to meet us and to change us. Amen.

Quote: *“Give your sorrow all the space and shelter in yourself that is its due, for if everyone bears grief honestly and courageously, the sorrow that now fills the world will abate. But if you do instead reserve most of the space inside you for hatred and thoughts of revenge—from which new sorrows will be born for others—then sorrow will never cease in this world.”* – Etty Hillesum

Starter Question: Do you tend to be tidy or messy? How do you deal with clutter?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

Read Mark 1:1-8

1. In what ways might “a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” have prepared people to receive Jesus?
2. Given that the wilderness was located between Jerusalem and the Jordan river, what would people have needed to leave behind— both literally and in their hearts— to travel through the wilderness and be baptized at the Jordan River?
3. What might have motivated people to respond to a message like John’s?

NEXT STEPS:

1. What takes up a lot of room in your heart and mind? What are the things—worries, habits, responsibilities, or even hopes—that you think about most during the day?
2. What voices are “crying out in the wilderness” for change? John the Baptist’s clothes and food made him “different.” Who in our world today is speaking up for justice, truth, or faith in ways that might seem unusual or uncomfortable, but worth listening to?
3. What might you need to leave behind (repent from) in order to make room for the Holy Spirit that Christ gives us to live differently?
- 4.

CLOSING PRAYER: God-with-us, we thank you for this space. Help us to go out now and live spacious lives, making room for others, especially those who need sanctuary in our broken our world. Amen.

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Week 1: Room, When Pressure is Closing In

Sunday – Joshua 2:1-21

Monday – Psalm 124

Tuesday – Psalm 42:1-5

Wednesday – Psalm 42:6-11

Thursday – Isaiah 29:19-20

Friday – Luke 1:46-50

Saturday – Luke 1:51-55

Week 2: Room in Your Heart

Sunday – Mark 1:1-8

Monday – Matthew 3:8-12

Tuesday – Luke 3:10-17-10

Wednesday – Isaiah 40:1-5

Thursday – Daniel 9:17-19

Friday – James 4:1-10

Saturday – Isaiah 35:8-10

Week 3: Room in Relationships

Sunday – Luke 1:24-45

Monday – Romans 15:4-7

Tuesday – 1 Thessalonians 4:9-10

Wednesday – Hebrews 2:14-18

Thursday – Matthew 25:34-40

Friday – 1 Samuel 23:15-18

Saturday – Exodus 4:10-16

Week 4: Room for Hope

Sunday – Matthew 1:18-25

Monday – Hebrews 11:1-3

Tuesday – Isaiah 11:1-5

Wednesday (Christmas Eve) –

Luke 2:1-7

Thursday (Christmas Day) –

Luke 2:8-20

Friday – John 1:1-14

Saturday – Psalm 146:5-7

Week 5: Refuge and Sanctuary

Sunday – Matthew 2:1-18

Monday – Matthew 2:19-23

Tuesday – Jeremiah 31:15-17

Wednesday – Hebrews 11:8-10

Thursday – Psalm 72:1-4

Friday – Isaiah 9:2-7

Saturday – Revelation 21:1-6