

Saturday

Please read James chapter one. This weekend we begin a new series in the book of James. Write down three things that strike you in this passage.

Thank God today for the opportunity to study the Bible. Pray for the services this weekend, that God will use this new study in the book of James to grow and mature our church. Pray that your heart will be receptive to what God wants to teach you this weekend.



WORLD
OUTREACH
WEEK

Keep Your Chin Up; It's Harvest Time!

Jossy Chacko
January 30 & 31, 2010

Notes

Biography

Jossy is the founder and international director of Empart, a global Christian non-profit organization. Jossy and his wife Jenni started Empart from their spare bedroom in 1998. Empart today has successfully planted more than 1,200 churches in one of the world's most unreached regions: North India.

As a dynamic and gifted communicator, Jossy is called to speak to groups of 30 to 30,000 people around the world to challenge, teach and encourage leaders to transform entire communities through innovative church planting.

Jossy is married to Jenni, whom he met at Bible College and they have four beautiful children: Jemimah, Jacob, Jasmine and Joshua. The JC Family lives in Melbourne, Australia.

Visit his website and blog at www.jossyckacko.org

Daily Meditations

Monday

What made an impression on you from last weekend's sermon? Why?

Please read Acts 1:11. What do you think it means to be a witness? (If you're having trouble defining it, think about what a witness in a courtroom does.)

It's good to be reminded that to "witness" is the part of the primary mission that Jesus left us with. What things sometimes distract you from this mission?

How will you be more intentional about witnessing this week?

Thank God today that He has included you in His plan to reach the world. Pray for the boldness and desire to be a witness for Him.

Tuesday

Please read 1 Peter 3:15–16. How does Peter say we should answer those who ask about the hope we have?

Why do you think this is important?

What does Peter say is the impact of sharing our faith in this manner?

Is it easy or difficult for you to be respectful and gentle when you share your faith? Why?

Talk to God today about the reasons it's difficult for you to share your faith. Ask Him to give you opportunities to talk about the hope you have in Him.

Wednesday

Please read Philemon 1:4–7. I'm especially intrigued by verse 6. What does Paul pray that Philemon will do?

Why does he hope Philemon will do this?

What does this teach you about the effect of sharing your faith with others — on your own faith?

How has sharing your faith, the hope you have in Christ, encouraged you in the past?

Thank God today that He cares about your spiritual growth. Pray that you will have His heart for those in your life who do not know about God's amazing grace and love.

Thursday

Please read Romans 10:9–15. What do you think the purpose is of Paul's series of questions in verses 14–17?

How does this underscore the importance of outreach for you?

Write down the names of at least two people in your life who need to hear the Good News. As you spend time in prayer today, talk to God specifically about these people. Pray that God will use you and others to share the Good News with them. Pray that your heart for the world will reflect God's heart.

Friday

Please read Matthew 25:16–46. List the six actions Jesus talks about here that were done by the "sheep":

When have you been hungry, thirsty, a stranger, in need of clothes, sick or imprisoned (this could be literally, emotionally or physically) and someone helped you? How did that impact your faith?

How have you reached out to people in these conditions?

Why is it important that we combine our faith and verbal witness with this kind of action?

Thank God today for those who have reached out to you in the past. Pray that you will remember to make this type of outreach a regular part of your life. Pray that God will nudge you when He has placed those opportunities in your path.



Memory Verse

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8 (NIV)