

ONE in the word

“Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me (Jesus).” (John 5:39)

January 15 - Preparation

Men of ONE:

As you prepare yourself for the coming “pursuit of Christ” by attending today’s church services, truly enter the day with a heart of worship. As the songs are sung, think about each word, rather than just absent-mindedly repeating the words. Truly hear the song’s message. Focus on the message being preached as the word of God is exposed. Perhaps today, we all should ask, as David asked, “Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if *there be any* wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.” (Psalm 139:23-24)

In the next five days of our pursuit of a deeper relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ through the reading and studying of His word, we will come to the accounts of some of the most well-known men of the Bible: Jacob who will be the father of God’s chosen nation, Israel; Joseph, Jacob’s first-born son of his beloved Rachel; and we will be “introduced” to the man who shall be called Moses, “Because I drew him out of the water,” as stated by Pharaoh’s daughter in Exodus 2:10. We will read of how each of these men of God, were called of God to fulfill a particular purpose for God that is forever recorded in the word of God, for our “example” (1 Corinthians 10:6) and “ensamples” (1 Corinthians 10:11). Our reading will consist of all three layers of biblical application: historical (these events really happened and people and lived); prophetic (this history also pictures things that will happen in the future); and devotional (things of history, pointing to things of the future, and applicable to us today.) Though we will read of some deaths, we will also read of some births. Though we read of some beginnings we will also read of some endings. Through them all, we will see Christ in many ways pictured as our Sustainer, Shepherd, and Sole Deliverer so that no matter what trial, temptation, or terrible situation we are facing, we can trust that God is right there with us through it all so that we can say with the psalmist, “The Lord *is* on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?” (Psalm 118:6)