

**The Times of our Lives**

**Monday, 2/15/10 – Read Genesis 2:7**

My Observations \_\_\_\_\_  
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A Thought to Think About: There are three elements in this creation. 1. The dust, 2. the breath which is also the spirit of God. Breath and spirit are the same word. These two combine to make 3. A living being or soul. Without the physical body and without breath we are not alive but the combination of the two creates a third entity i.e. living being. So we breathe we are experiencing the spirit of God which keeps us alive.

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**Tuesday, 2/16/10 – Read Ecclesiastes 12:6-7**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
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A Question to Answer: Here we find the writer distinguishes between the dust which returns to earth and the spirit (breath) which returns to God. That leaves the soul which remains for eternity. The soul is the essence of what we are and remains. So our lives are not just for a moment but actually for eternity. How does that idea motivate or change our view of what we do?

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**Wednesday, 2/17/10 – Read Ephesians 1:13-14**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
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A Thought to Think About: Today and the next two days are scriptures about the special gift of the Spirit of God for Christians. This passage says that the Spirit is the PLEDGE by God that our inheritance is final redemption by God through Jesus Christ. It is not the final statement but a pledge that the final statement of innocence is assured. The seal of the Holy Spirit is that pledge. Thus we have assurance of God's mercy forever.

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**Thursday, 2/18/10 – Read II Corinthians 5:5**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
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A Thought to Think About: This is a repeat of what Paul wrote in Ephesians 1:13-14 that the Holy Spirit is our guarantee that God will fulfill what he has promised. That Spirit is given to us when we first trust in Christ as Peter says in Acts 2:38, it is the gift by God when we trust Him and are baptized into Christ. The spirit is the power that enables us to live as God wants.

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**Friday, 2/19/10 – Read II Corinthians 1:21-22**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_  
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A Thought to Think About: This scripture is another repeat but uses different terminology. This time the Spirit is described as the first installment, actually the word means down payment or earnest payment. Thus when we believe God gives us His spirit to live in us and that gift assures us that God will continue to work in and through us.

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**Saturday, 2/20/10 – Read Thessalonians 5:19**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

A Thought to Think About: This passage says that though the Spirit is in us to direct, guide, etc. it is not overriding our own will. We have the ability to say no or to ignore the Spirit's promptings. We should be aware of God's working in us. This takes time and quiet to listen.

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**Sunday, 2/21/10 – Read Ephesians 4:30**

My Observations: \_\_\_\_\_

A Thought to Think About: This passage is similar to yesterdays but more complete because it references the fact that we are sealed by the Holy Spirit which is God's guarantee of our ultimate victory through Him, however, we are still persons of freewill and can turn against God's directions through His Spirit. All of these scriptures invite us to be quiet and listen to God speak to us through His Spirit in all situations.

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*My Faith Journal*, February 14, 2010  
Last Sunday After the Epiphany  
**God is IN us**

**What do I hear God saying to me today?**

**What action do I intend to take this week?**

*Each day this week, take a few minutes. Begin with PRAYER. Then READ through the Bible passage indicated on the inside of this guide. WRITE down your own thoughts, reactions, observations. ANSWER THE QUESTION to begin connecting the Bible with your life. Use additional paper or your own notebook if you need more space to write.*