WEEKLY BIBLE READING GUIDE FOR 2018 LENT "Jesus in the Gospel of John" Fourth Week

Monday, March 12: John 10:1-21 ... Jesus, the Good Shepherd

In Ezekiel 34, God is portrayed as a shepherd who faithfully tends his flock. Jesus called himself, "the gate for the sheep" and "the good shepherd." He said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." *How easy or hard for you to trust this promise of an abundant life Jesus offers us? To what degree is this promise a reality in your experience today?*

Tuesday, March 13: John 10:22-42 ... Jesus and His Foes

Jesus' foes said to Jesus, "If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Upon hearing Jesus' answer, they picked up stones to stone him. Jesus asked them to believe the works of God he is doing, so they could know and understand who he is, that he and God are one. But, they could not understand his answer. Apparently, Jesus' identity as the Messiah was beyond their imagination. *Do you believe Jesus was more than a good teacher? Do you believe Jesus as all he claimed to be?*

<u>Wednesday, March 14</u>: John 11:57 ... Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life

The 7th miraculous sign of Jesus was restoring Lazarus, who had been dead for 4 days, to life. To Martha who was grieving her brother's death, Jesus said, "Your brother will rise again... I am the resurrection and the life... everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." Then, he asked her, "Do you believe this?" to which Martha replied, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." *Jesus asks us the same question*. *What would be your answer*?

Thursday, March 15: John 12:1-19 ...

As the news of Jesus' miraculous sign of raising Lazarus from the dead spread, people came out to meet Jesus. And, they believed in him. The Pharisees did not like what they saw and plotted to kill Jesus as well as Lazarus. The Pharisees did not welcome Jesus, while many others did. *Is your spiritual life more like the Pharisees, who were settled in their ways and reluctant to change or like the people who were seeking and open?*

Friday, March 16: John 12:20-50 ... Jesus' Prediction of His Own Death

Verse 46 is the statement of purpose Jesus gave about himself. He said, "I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believe in me should not remain in the darkness." *How would you say this purpose statement of Jesus relates to your purpose in life?*

Saturday, March 17: John 13:1-38 ... Jesus' Act of Love and Commandment

Jesus' commandment to love one another was not new, but "as I have loved you" took love to a whole new level. Jesus' model of loving one another sounds like a daunting task. But, we are told that love is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22). This weekend, spend time, reflecting on Jesus words about love. Allow his love to shape your view of yourself and others, as well as your act of love.