



## **Westminster Presbyterian Church**

Digging Deeper Questions

February 18, 2018

Scripture: Psalm 25:1-10 & Mark 1:9-15

### **Open in Prayer**

**Fellowship Question:** Were you a rebel as a child? Teenager? Adult? Senior?

### **Study Questions for the Sermon and Text:**

**Week "0" and "1":** Reflecting on both the WPC Sermon from February 18, as well as the first four days and "Week 1" of N.T. Wright's *Lent for Everyone: Mark, Year B*.

1. As far as you know, what is Lent all about? What's its purpose?
2. Have you ever *actively* participated in Lent (i.e. fasting or taking up a discipline)? What did you do? Why did you choose the discipline you chose? If you haven't, is there a reason you haven't?
3. Read and reflect on Psalm 25:1-10. David writes that he puts his trust in God. Who do you trust? What is it about a person that makes them trustworthy? How is putting our trust in God, different from putting our trust in others?
4. In Wright's devotional for Ash Wednesday, reflecting on Mark 1:1-9, he writes, "John (the Baptist's) message of repentance was essentially forward-looking." What do you think of when you hear the word, "repentance"? How can it be forward looking?
5. Read Mark 1:9-13. Matthew and Luke go into great detail about Jesus' baptism and temptation. Mark gets straight to the point. Why might all three accounts be important? In all three accounts Jesus' baptism is followed by a season of temptation. Why might that be significant? And, what should it teach us about our own baptism?
6. Pastor Dave mentioned that Mark 1:14 is a good summary of Jesus' message and ministry. Think through Jesus' life. Where are some places in Scripture where he (1) preached that the Kingdom of God was at hand, (2) called people to repentance, or (3) delivered good news?
7. In the "Week 1: Monday" section of Wright's devotional, he focuses on Mark 2:18-22 and Jesus being questioned about fasting. He writes that Jesus' reply to John's disciples has nothing to do with rules, and everything to do with undoing "the long years of shame and sorrow and replace them with a great celebration." How are fasting and celebrating connected? What are some ways we as a church celebrate well?

8. In the “Week 1: Friday” section, Wright focus on Jesus calming a storm. In the prayer at the end of the section, he writes “Wake us up, O Lord, from our easy-going sleep. Help us always to remember that you are in control, no matter how frightening or alarming things may be.” What is our world afraid of today? What can we do to remind ourselves that God is in control, even in the midst of chaos?

**Prayer:**

- Pray for those affected by the flu or any illness.
- Pray for the families in Florida

**Leader notes:**

- Maundy Thursday Dinner; March 29 at 6pm
- Maundy Thursday Service will begin at 7:30pm
- Good Friday; Prayer Garden open for reflection and Journey to the Cross from noon – 7:30pm
- Good Friday Service will begin at 7:30pm