

**Quest for Depth: PRELUDE****Wednesday Worship:** Scripture: Isaiah 55:6–13

Message: "Seek the Lord!"

**Object of the Week:** A "Daily Prayer" Card**Thoughts for the Week:**

We're about to begin an exciting six-week journey—a "quest." It's a journey that will draw us deeper into fellowship with Jesus. Along the way we'll make use of personal prayer, Bible reading, appropriate thoughts and help give focus to our quest, and a special hymn each week. On each Sunday we'll receive a "cross display object" to your cross display and completing your devotional times, be sure your goal is the proper one: that of seeking for depth in Jesus. May we, each day, as our "daily prayer" suggests, hear our Lord speaking amidst the noise of life. And may God bless us all in our quest.

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

1. Hebrews 11:1–6

2. Psalm 105:1–4

3. Matthew 5:1–10

**Questions to Consider**

1. Do you have a good place for your cross display? Maybe you want to use a special table, a bedroom dresser, or a kitchen shelf. Just be sure the cross is a frequent sight for all participants in your household.
2. Consider the barriers you face to faithful and earnest participation in our "quest"; now commit them to the Lord in prayer and ask for strength to break through these barriers daily.
3. Have you decided when you will have your daily "quiet time" (as an individual or as a family), offering your prayer, and reading and reflecting on God's Word?

**Hymn of the Week:** "Just a Closer Walk With Thee"**Quest for Depth: WEEK ONE****Sunday:** Scripture: Mark 8:34–38

Message: "The Daily Choice"

**Object of the Week:** A Cross**Thoughts for the Week:**

We've all heard the expression, "It's the cross I must bear." Being a Christian involves looking to the cross, taking up a cross, and carrying a cross. Yet, instead of being a *burden*, the cross brings life and meaning to our existence. This week, and during the coming six weeks, you'll see a cross in your home. Let its presence prompt you to examine your commitment and surrender to the cross of Christ. I pray that you'll find yourself closer to him through such examination.

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

1. 1 Corinthians 1:1–25

3. Philippians 3:17–21

5. Colossians 1:15–20

2. Galatians 6:14–16

4. Philippians 2:1–8

6. Luke 14:25–33

**Questions to Consider:**

1. As you read this week's passages, remember that the "message of the cross" is a message that brings power yet seems foolish.
2. Try to list some of the "crosses" you must bear gladly, for Jesus' sake.
3. Children can draw a picture of a cross and display it in their bedroom or on the refrigerator.

**Hymn of the Week:** "Abide With Me"**Quest for Depth: WEEK TWO****Sunday:** Scripture: Matthew 26:14–16

Message: "Loose Change"

**Object of the Week:** A Bag of Coins**Thoughts for the Week:**

Money does amazing things. It "talks." It also persuades us to do foolish things. Judas certainly found this out—have passages selected for this week are meant to help us see both "sides" of our "coins." I pray that you'll experience God's rich blessing this week as you consider how to use your money.

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

1. 1 Timothy 6:6–10

3. Matthew 6:19–24

5. Proverbs 3:1–14

2. Mark 10:17–23

4. 2 Corinthians 9:6–11

6. Matthew 27:1–5

**Questions to Consider:**

1. Can you identify any "bad attitudes" about money that you have been having?
2. What are some of the "good things" God wants you to do with your money? Are there any promises you want to make to God as a result?
3. If you have children, think of a concrete way they can use money for God this week, and then encourage them to do it!

**Hymn of the Week:** "Be Thou My Vision" (note v. 3)**Quest for Depth: WEEK THREE****Sunday:** Scripture: Mark 15:16–20

Message: "A Heaven-sent Headpiece"

**Object of the Week:** A Crown of Thorns**Thoughts for the Week:**

We expect a king to wear a crown; and we have all heard of the crown of thorns that Jesus wore. Most of us cringe at the thought of the thorny spikes jamming into his skull. Yet, the crown of thorns was so much more than uncomfortable headgear. It actually symbolized the full gore of Jesus' suffering, as well as his future glory. As we see in this week's Scripture reading, a crown awaits all faithful Christians. Will you accept both the gore and the glory of Christian discipleship?

**Bible Readings for the Week:**

1. Isaiah 53:3–5

3. Revelation 2:8–11

5. Revelation 4:9–11

2. Hebrews 2:9–11

4. 1 Corinthians 9:22–27

6. John 19:1–15

**Questions to Consider:**

1. How do you most often think of Jesus' rule: with a crown of glory or a crown of gore? Do you have any explanations for your answer?
2. The Bible tells us that Jesus' suffering enables him to understand us. List some of the suffering *you* have done, and then thank Jesus for understanding.
3. Can you list some of the times Jesus suffered in life even before the crown of thorns was placed on his head? (This is a good question for children.)

**Hymn of the Week:** "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"