



A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Text for the Week: Revelation 22:1-5

Message for the Week: Eden Restored

Sunday, March 9

Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

What's your favorite fruit? Why?

Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

Read:

Read / Have two people in your group read [Revelation 22:1-5](#) out loud.

[Clicking the link will bring you to multiple translations.]

As you read and/or listen to the text being read, circle, highlight, or underline what words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

Respond / Reflect:

How does the river of life flowing down the middle of the street affect the things it touches? How are you being affected by the river of life?

What is the relationship between Ezekiel 47:1-12 and Revelation 22:1-5?

How is it possible for the tree of life to keep bearing fruit month after month? Why is this important? How is the tree of life different from the fruit bearing trees that we know?

Where in your life do you need the healing power of the fruit/leaves from the Tree of Life? Where does our community need the healing power of the fruit/leaves from the Tree of Life? Where does our nation and the nations of the world need the healing power of the fruit/leaves from the Tree of Life?

How are you both bringing and bearing the fruit of the tree of life in your life?

As we wrap up this series of sermons on the River of Life, what have you learned about the importance of the River of Life? How is the River of Life changing and shaping who you are?

Take Away:

What is a main point or key message that you learned, understood, observed, or experienced that you are taking away with you from your group's reflections on the bible passage or your group's conversations today?

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you. Who in your group needs prayer today? Who in your group will you pray for?

Pray this prayer together:

Dear Father, often we are scared or unsure of entering into the River of Life. Give us the courage to fully enter into life with you so that your healing mercies flow through us into the lives around us. Help us to see that our lives are about you and not ourselves. AMEN

"Try It" - Putting our Faith into Action:

Identify two or three ways that you can serve the throne of God and of the Lamb this week. Try them.

Revelation 22:1-5 - New International Version

22 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 22:1-5 – The Message

22 ¹⁻⁵ Then the Angel showed me Water-of-Life River, crystal bright. It flowed from the Throne of God and the Lamb, right down the middle of the street. The Tree of Life was planted on each side of the River, producing twelve kinds of fruit, a ripe fruit each month. The leaves of the Tree are for healing the nations. Never again will anything be cursed. The Throne of God and of the Lamb is at the center. His servants will offer God service—worshiping, they'll look on his face, their foreheads mirroring God. Never again will there be any night. No one will need lamplight or sunlight. The shining of God, the Master, is all the light anyone needs. And they will rule with him age after age after age.