

BUT YOU ARE . . .  
1 PETER 2:4-10

WEEK 3:  
DECEMBER 18

# APOSTLESHIP

"GO, THEREFORE. . ."

## DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

### MONDAY

Do you have a nativity scene in your home? If so, sit where you can see it. If not, imagine the scene. (Or, pull up an image on your computer if you have that option.) Recall some of what Jeremy said in the sermon about the dubious group gathered around the birth of Jesus. In what ways do you identify with these folks? Read 1 Peter 2:4-10 from this perspective. What do you feel hearing these words? How are you prompted to respond?

### TUESDAY

Write down one phrase from 1 Peter 2:4-10 that you want to hold onto today. Post it where you can see it frequently. Invite God to be this living Word in you.

### WEDNESDAY

Read John 1:5

*The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.*

#### Attend the Solstice Service at 7pm in the FPC sanctuary.

Invite someone to go with you.

Gather with others for a time of reflection on the darkest night of the year—a time to recognize the empty and the need for the full. Come experience God, community, and healing. Communion will be served.

### THURSDAY

On this day after the solstice a new year is dawning with respect to light.

Read 1 Peter 2:5

*You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

Pray:

*Open wide the window of our spirits, O Lord,  
and fill us full of light;*

*Open wide the door of our hearts,  
that we may receive and entertain thee with all our powers  
of adoration and love.*

*Amen.*

Christian G. Rossetti, Prayers from the Heart edited by Richard Foster

### FRIDAY

Read 1 Peter 2:9

Watch for what is praise-worthy today. Call it out.

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We won't be printing our Devotional Guide for a couple of week but here are suggestions to keep you in God's word along with others at FPC across the holiday season.

#### Daily Devotions the Week following Christmas Day

Start at the beginning of Matthew and read one chapter each day from chapter 1 to 7. This will take you through the birth of Jesus, his baptism followed by his time in the wilderness, and the beginning of his ministry with the Sermon on the Mount. Seek to rediscover what is revealed about Jesus and the God he represents in each chapter. Consider how you represent God in the same ways each day.

#### Daily Devotions the Week following New Years Day

Start the new year with worship. Read Psalm 8 this week from a variety of translations. (You can get a variety of versions online at [www.biblestudytools.com](http://www.biblestudytools.com)). Let Psalm 8 be a daily praise to God as you start the new year. Expand on it as you feel led. Or, let it be a firm foundation of truth even when you feel unsure.



Illustration by Julie Vivas, [The Nativity](#)