

# Growing PRAISE

EVERY NIGHT...EVERY HOME...THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN LIFE

25 February - 3 March 2018

VERSES of the week— Mark 8:34-35

***“If any of you wants to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, & follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake & for the sake of the Good News, you will save it.”***

## TABLE GRACE

Bless us through this meal  
dear Lord.

Teach our hearts  
to trust your Word.

**Help us always live what’s true;**  
and take up our cross  
to follow you.  
Amen.

## 5 POINT CHECK UP

1. Share your highs (good times) and lows (bad times)
2. Read a verse from the Bible.
3. What do you find “best” in the text? What is most confusing or hard to understand? What does God want you to do ?
4. Pray for one another (**P**raise God, **T**hank Jesus, **A**sk the Holy Spirit).
5. Bless one another.

THOUGHT for the week:

***“Christ says: give me all. I don’t want only so much of your time or money or work, I want you. No half-measures are good enough. Hand over the whole self, all the desires which you think innocent as well as the ones you think wicked—the whole outfit. And I will give you a new self instead.”*** --- CS Lewis

Living Water Fellowship, Wagga Wagga

**Come...Grow...Go...Show**



LivingWater  
fellowship

## let's TALK

1. *Gather in the name of the Father, Son & Holy Spirit. Share your highs/lows. Read Mark 8:27-38 & Isaiah 53:2-12. What strikes you as you read these verses?*
2. **Isaiah says “we have left God’s path to follow our own.” Jesus’ invites us to “give up (our) own way” to follow him. How are these 2 verses related? What is required for Jesus’ call to be answered by you?**
3. **From this point on in Mark’s gospel, Jesus tells his disciples he will die & rise again. (2 more times in fact) Why does Peter react so strongly to this word from Jesus? Why does Jesus react so strongly to Peter’s objection?**
4. What is the connection between verses 31-33 where Jesus predicts his own suffering & death, & verses 34-38 where Jesus calls his disciples to a life of self-denial & cross bearing? In what way has Jesus already done this? How will you?
5. **What are some things people try to “hang on to” or “gain” but lose their soul in the process? What are you tempted to “hang on to”? How can Jesus & your fellow disciples help you to lose that for Jesus’ sake?**
6. **Why is it important that we give an accurate portrayal of Christ’s character and works when we share the gospel? How would you answer a someone who asked, “Why does Jesus have to suffer, die, & rise again?”**

### let's READ

Sunday	James 4:6-8	Thursday	Philippians 2:3-4
Monday	Jeremiah 9:23-24	Friday	Job 36:8-11
Tuesday	Proverbs 16:18-19	Saturday	Proverbs 29:23
Wednesday	Galatians 6:1-5		

## let's PRAY

*PRAISE GOD for his grace to all in Jesus Christ.*

*THANK JESUS for stepping down into our world to lift us up to his.*

*ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT to shape your heart in humble likeness to Christ.*

## let's BLESS

*Make the sign of the cross on each other & say:*

**(Name), † child of God,**

**may your highest ambition be**

**to be conformed to the image of Christ. Amen.**

