

A HEART FAITH AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Early Brethren studied their Bibles and attempted to follow the way of Jesus. Finding a “heart faith,” they emerged from baptism “clothed inwardly with great joyfulness.” Then the word was given, “Be fruitful and multiply.” *European Origins*, p. 122.

This fifth section of devotions in *Fresh from the Word* has the title of “Restoration and Covenant Renewal.” Many of the scripture readings are about the returning of the Israelites to the Holy Land and the challenges to rebuild the temple and the city walls.

At the heart of such renewal is restoration and renewal of covenant. As we think of renewal of our denomination through this 300th anniversary year, the same themes apply. Rebuilding takes faith, courage, steadfastness, and prayer—all signs of covenant.

But with covenant comes blessing—that God’s hand is upon us.

As we enter this fifth period of scripture reading, prayer and having devotional readings from Brethren writers, we can focus on building our personal faith and building up of the community of faith in the church. Our strength, our hope will be increased.

This guide assists with reading scripture slowly for meditation and having prayer. The scriptures are the same as in *Fresh From the Word* devotional for the Brethren 300th Anniversary. You can read the devotional if available or find a key thought in the text.

As you find some thought to meditate upon, pray that God will help you follow the guidance of these words. During the day, return to your Bible text and remember what it says. Remember a message of faith from fellow Brethren who encourage us.

On the insert are options to discern God’s leading for your next step in spiritual growth. May practicing these disciplines lead to spiritual growth for you and your church.

Daily Scripture

Monday April 28, 2008Psalm 84:1-4
Tuesday April 29..... Haggai 1:1-11
Wed. April 30.....Haggai 1:12-15; Matthew 28:18-20
Thurs. May 1.....Ezra 3:8-13
Fri. May 2..... Ezra 4:1-4
Sat., May 3Ezra 5:1-5; Zechariah 4:6-7

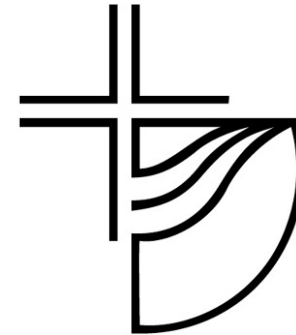
Sunday, May 4..... Ezra 5:6-17
Sunday School and Worship: Scripture & Sermon Title
Monday, May 5.....Psalm 137:1-7
Tuesday, May 6.....Nehemiah 1:1-4; Acts 13:1-3
Wednesday, May 7Nehemiah 1:5-11
Thurs., May 8..... Nehemiah 2:1-10
Friday, May 9Nehemiah 2:11-16
Saturday, May 10.....Nehemiah 2:17-20

Sunday, May 11..... Psalm 138:1-5; Romans 8:15-17
Sunday School and Worship: Scripture & Sermon Title
Monday, May 12.....Psalm 70
Tuesday, May 13.....Nehemiah 4:1-6
Wednesday, May 14.....Nehemiah 4:7-11; 1 Peter 5:6-11
Thursday, May 15.....Nehemiah 4:12-15; Ephesians 6:10-19
Fri. May 16.....Nehemiah 4:16-23; Romans 12:19-21
Saturday, May 17.....Nehemiah 6:1-14

Sunday, May 18.....Nehemiah 6:15-19
Sunday School and Worship: Scripture and Sermon Title
Monday, May 19.....Psalm 27:1-14; 62
Tuesday, May 20.....Leviticus 23:33-43
Wednesday, May 21.....Deuteronomy 16:13-17
Thursday, May 22.....Nehemiah 8:1-6
Friday, May 23.....Nehemiah 8:7-12
Saturday, May 24.....Nehemiah 8:13-18

Sunday, May 25.....Psalm 19:7-14
Sunday School and Worship: Scripture and Sermon Title

**“ A HEART FAITH
And Covenant Renewal”**



**Church of the Brethren
300th Anniversary**

April 28 – May 25, 2008

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Copy to Dedicate

A Heart Faith and Renewal

God leads us to our next discipline of growth. Rather than trying an exhaustive program, we seek the next incremental step in spiritual practices that lead us to a closer walk with God.

Below are disciplines to grow in faith. Perhaps you will have another to list. Continuing spiritual disciplines you already have; circle a discipline to which you feel God is inviting you.

In keeping with the theme let us these 5 weeks put special emphasis on renewal personally and congregationally with a “heart faith.”

1. Daily read and meditate on scripture and have focused prayer giving special attention to how to share and live our faith.
2. If available read the devotional from *Fresh From the Word* and commit to doing the “For the day” discipline.
3. Weekly participate in Sunday School
4. Weekly worship
5. Decide what practice could help you renew your covenant with Christ and the church. _____
6. Other discipline of God’s leading _____

I am asking God’s help as I make this commitment

Name: (if desired) _____

Personal Copy

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