



Pastor Ken Studer

**Sunday, May 25, 2008**

**Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:24-34**

TODAY'S THOUGHT: Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine. —Anthony J. D'Angelo

Matthew 6:33 (see the reading above) is one of my favorite verses: "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (NIV). Jesus is speaking in what we call his "Sermon on the Mount," and he says that good things will happen if we put the kingdom of God first in our lives. Notice that Jesus says that these things "will" happen. Someday. As a consequence of our "seeking" first the kingdom of God.

This reminds me of an interesting verse in Joshua (the sixth book in the Old Testament). In chapter 3, Joshua speaks to the people of Israel. They have been wandering around in the wilderness for 40 years. Now they are at the water's edge of the Jordan River, preparing to enter "the promised land." But Joshua has this to say: "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you" (v. 5, NIV). Not today. God's not going to do amazing things today. Tomorrow.

Today is all about preparation and consecration; tomorrow is about blessing. God is going to do amazing stuff, but it's going to happen tomorrow, and then only if proper preparation has been made. Don't we usually want God to bless us right now? Like, immediately? Have we forgotten that often God's blessings don't come because we have failed to properly prepare ourselves, or devote ourselves to God's will.

This is the tough part about being faithful. It's hard to be faithful when we don't seem to see any blessing or any fruit of our labors. God says, "Trust me. I am going to do amazing things." Only faith can see beyond the Jordan into God's amazing tomorrow.

**Prayer: Lord Jesus, increase my faith! In your name. Amen.**

# ACTIVITY PAGE for the week of May 25, 2008

## Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday: John 1-3
- Monday: 1 Kings 1-4
- Tuesday: 1 Kings 5-7
- Wednesday: 1 Kings 8-10
- Thursday: 1 Kings 11-13
- Friday: 1 Kings 14-16
- Saturday: Psalms 52-54

### VERSE TO REMEMBER

*"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."*

*-John 1:1*

# FUN WITH PLURALS!

Our language has many different ways to form the plural. Can you give the singular or plural form of these words? Unscramble the circled letters to reveal a book of the Bible meaning "songs."

### SINGULAR

1. \_  \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
2. Salmon
3. Sheep
4. Species
5. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
6. Crisis
7. \_ \_ \_ \_
8. \_ \_ \_ \_
9. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
10. \_ \_ \_ \_

### PLURAL

- Bacteria
- \_ \_  \_ \_ \_
- \_ \_ \_
- \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- Criteria
- \_ \_ \_  \_ \_
- Data
- Wolves
- Phenomena
- Beaux

SECRET WORD: \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**Answers:**  
 1. bacterium, 2. salmon, 3. sheep, 4. species, 5. criterion,  
 6. crises, 7. datum, 8. wolf, 9. phenomenon, 10. beau.  
**Secret word:** Psalms