



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN THE PHILIPPINES ELLINWOOD-MALATE CHURCH, INC.



LENTEN RETREAT 2021

The Pandemic has been with us for more than a year and will be with us a little longer. We have seen how a lot of our activities including our worship services have moved to an online platform, together with much of our work, classes, meetings, seminars and even family reunions have moved to a digital/virtual venue.

Except for Medical Frontliners and other essential workers, we have found ourselves mostly at home.

But have you learned to:

1. *Pray more?* If you are with your family: Are you praying WITH your family more?
2. *Read the Bible more?* If you are with your family: Are you reading the Bible TOGETHER?

The Pandemic has given us not only the opportunity to PRAY MORE and to READ THE BIBLE MORE but also to LOOK TO GOD MORE.

For this morning, let us LEAVE the virtual world behind and deal with God's Word, in our hands, read from a page, spoken out loud and meditate on it with our hearts and minds. Let us allow the Word of God to SPEAK to us through its reading and hearing.

So as we take the time to remember God's great love for us through His son Jesus Christ, kindly endeavor to do the following:

1. Gather your family. If you are alone that is fine.
2. Pick up your Bible and read the passages hereunder out loud (speaking volume). If you are with your family, kindly read loud enough for everyone to hear and pass the Bible around for every assigned reading.
3. NO GADGETS PLEASE. If you are using your smart phone to access the Retreat Guide, download it then kindly set your phone to Airplane Mode. Turn off your wifi/ data.
4. Reflect upon the passages you have read and close with a prayer. If with your family, assign the closing prayer to at least two different members of the household.
5. The readings will clock at approximately two hours. So I suggest that you begin this Retreat NOT LATER than 10am so that you can end in a timely manner just before lunch.

Have a blessed day savoring God's Word.



Home Retreat Flow

A. Open in prayer

B. Reading of the Bible

1. John 12
2. John 13
3. Luke 22
4. Matthew 26
5. Mark 14
6. John 14
7. John 15
8. John 16
9. John 17
10. John 18
11. Mark 15
12. Luke 23
13. Matthew 27
14. John 19

C. Sharing of Insights

D. Closing Prayer