

“GOD ON THE MOVE”
“God Moves... Down the Road”

God continues to move with us through Lent. The story of the prodigal son comes at a time when we need reminded of how we have strayed away from God. In Lent, the 40 days leading up to Holy Week and Easter, we move closer and closer to God’s full work of reconciliation in a broken world. The story of the prodigal son hints at the bigger picture, that God is soon to restore the strayed relationship between God and humanity through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As you continue to fast, pray, and practice spiritual disciplines- might your heart and feet turn towards God, and your eyes look forward to God running down the road with joy to meet you. **(Study Guide written by Pastor Rebecca Goltry Mohr)**

This week we completed 1,608 miles! Just 2,675.5 to go until we reach Jerusalem!

Things I’d like to remember from today’s sermon: **“God Moves... Down the Road”**

Daily prayer: *O God, our world needs more love, mercy, and compassion. Soften our hearts, renew our minds, open our eyes, and allow us to be transformed by the workings of your grace. Free us from the compulsion of jealousy, help us to value the goodness in others, teach us the way of prudence, and lead us along the path of humility. Thank you for always being there for us. Your unearned, unconditional love is always there ready and waiting to be received. Lasting joy is union with you. Amen. (Written by Chet Jechura)*

Study Guide

Monday, April 1: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The familiar prodigal son, there are many ways to soak in this fascinating story of a father and son who have been estranged. The image of the father running down the road to meet his son is the image I hope you continue to remember as you continue to work through Lent. When life overwhelms you and you leave what is familiar behind, God will always run down the road to welcome you back into God's fold. **Daily challenge:** *Move Upward- Find ways to move into a deeper relationship with God, allow God's rhythms of justice and righteousness to become your movement upward.*

Tuesday, April 2: Joshua 5: 9-12

The scripture for today, is one of hope and perseverance. Once the Israelites have made it to Gilgal (associated with the Hebrew word galgal, meaning "to roll" or "to roll away") they have moved on from Egypt and have this marks the transition into the land west of the Jordan. This movement and arrival is one of celebration. In the days ahead, God will continue to move us toward the arrival destination. **Daily challenge:** *Move inward- Find ways to move into knowing yourself, allow your gifts and passions to be realized in all that you do. Move toward accepting yourself, just the way you are.*

Wednesday, April 3: Psalm 32

This psalm is a reminder of the joy of forgiveness and the grace of our Almighty God. When life gets tough, God's hand is always heavy upon us. The psalmist understands and relates to many of the struggles and adversity we are faced with each day. The companionship and love that is found in our God on the move helps us to push through when times are tough and to land softly when we fall. **Daily challenge:** *Move outward- Find ways to assess the community you live, work and play in. Move out beyond yourself to help a neighbor, volunteer for an organization, or make connections that challenge your daily comfort.*

Thursday, April 4: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

We are ambassadors of the new creation! This task that is laid out by God and shared by Paul is good news. The new covenant is only made possible by death, and by death God and humanity were reconciled. Since we are believers of this transformational news, we are the agents to proclaim and live out a life marked by this new covenant. **Daily challenge:** *Move ofward (of the church) - Find and commit to ways to plug into the church and become a more committed follower of Jesus by your service to our local congregation. Move throughout the hallways and classrooms, praying for teachers, participants, and for the holy connection that happens when we share and learn about how God is moving in our church today.*

Friday, April 5: Psalm 34:1-10

"Taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him." Psalm 34 is all about receiving from God, when in complete trust we cry to God for help. The psalm's message was not theory it was real-life action and response from God. On this day of moving toward wholeness, lean into the goodness and the fullness of God's ever-present love. **Daily challenge:** *Move into Wholeness- Throughout the week you have been challenged to move upward, inward, outward and ofward. Today, reflect on how each of these movements has helped you to welcome wholeness in life and relationships. As you journey throughout Lent, God will continue to purify you and put a new and right spirit within you.*