

Questions for thought:

- What does the passage say about God?
- What does this passage say about human beings?
- What does this passage say about creation, the environment?
- What does this passage say about the relationship between creation, God, and humanity and how they connect at the "table?"

**Monday August 28<sup>th</sup>**

*Genesis 9:4.* Bad news if you like your steak rare, you can't eat any meat with it's blood present. It was a way to be humane in killing livestock, but also a means to prevent blood-borne pathogens if not cooked properly.

**Tuesday August 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Leviticus 22:8.** It wasn't permitted to eat an animal that had died in the wild after being attacked. Scripture determined that was unclean. What danger would present itself if you ate a deer that had been attacked in the forest by a lion? Is this a holiness thing or a practical health thing? Or both? How wonderful is it that the Hebrew Bible is filled with scientific awareness as a gift by God?!

**Wednesday August 30<sup>th</sup>**

*1 Samuel 9:13.* The people wouldn't eat until the blessing was said. Now consider this, is the food bad until "blessed?" Or is a table blessing simply a means to give thanks to God for the food to satisfy our hunger?

**Thursday August 31<sup>st</sup>**

*John 21:9.* This is close to the spot where Jesus fed the 5000 with fishes and loaves. (Today there is a sign that says "No Picnics" and I find that very funny!) The first time the disciples connect with Jesus after his resurrection was at a BBQ. It was fish, but still cooked over charcoal. What might a sacred BBQ look like if the church was the host? What would we want our guests to experience?

**Friday September 1<sup>st</sup>**

*Luke 24:42.* When Jesus wanted to prove that he wasn't a ghost after the resurrection (in Luke's account) he eats a piece of broiled fish. Eating is something that anchors us in this life. It is necessary for continued living, essential.

**Saturday September 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*John 4:31.* We often picture the disciples as bumbling and making mistakes, even being uncaring as someone is trying to get to Jesus and they form a blockade. Here they are monitoring Jesus and trying to make sure he is taking care of himself. Who do you know that does so much for others that they often forget to eat? Is there a way to help and nurture them to care for the caregivers?

Look at the prayer list. Who can you pray for? Who needs a little extra help in an area where you can make a difference?

**Family & Friends:** Michele Matusiak (Jill Hagan's sister), Jeff Eschowsky (friend of AUMC), Maple Hill UMC, Angela Bryan (Dawn McCarty's sister), Mark Thompson (Barbara's brother), Rex Townsend, Stan Ensich, Janet Coons (Donna McCullough's daughter)

**College Students:** Noel Wolfe, Emily Crowel, Adam Zietlow, Emily Zietlow, Alexandria Meyer

**Homebound Members:** Mary Hicks, Mary Schmidt, Jeanne Carman, Ginny Compton, Clara Ford, Carolyn Loos

**Military Personnel:** Adam Walters, Joseph Roberts, Lucas Lamkin, Adam Clark

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**OTHER PRAYER REQUESTS & REFLECTIONS**