

## Study Guide for the Week of

January 13, 2008

*This study guide is designed to help you to become more familiar with the Bible. Study these passages on your own, with a friend, or with a group. If you or someone you know needs a Bible, please take one from under a chair in the Worship Center. They are there for you to take home and use! Sermon manuscripts are available at [www.spwired.com](http://www.spwired.com).*

**Monday, January 14.** This week's readings will highlight some of the Bible's teachings about justice and how God's people are to live out their faith. **Read Isaiah 58:1-14.** What does God despise? What does God seek?

**Tuesday, January 15.** The prophets in ancient Israel often denounced the hypocrisy and disobedience of the people and their religious leaders. They would then cast a vision of what God was looking for. Sense God's frustration in the following passage, and the clear direction regarding what God is looking for from his people. **Read Micah 6:1-8.** What do you think verse 8 means for your life?

**Wednesday, January 16.** It is interesting that the only times Jesus appears angry is when he is confronted with religious hypocrisy. He denounces the Pharisees who were arguably the most pious of the Jewish leaders. **Read Matthew 23.** What were the sins of the Pharisees? Do you ever struggle with acting like a Pharisee? If so, how?

**Thursday, January 17.** Jesus' moral vision is found throughout the gospels, but it is captured most fully in the Sermon on the Mount. **Read the following highlights from the Sermon on the Mount: Matthew 5:13-16, 5:33-48, 6:1-15, 7:1-5.** What do these teachings of Jesus mean to you?

**Friday, January 18.** The defining characteristic of the Christian life is meant to be love. In this passage Paul describes what love looks like. **Read 1 Corinthians 13.** It has been suggested that by replacing the word "love" with your own name, this chapter becomes an invitation for self-evaluation. How are you doing at living a life of love?