

# Study Guide for the Week of July 20, 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! Message manuscripts are available at [www.spwired.com](http://www.spwired.com).*

**Monday—Read Matthew 26:51-54 and John 18:36, 19:9-11.** How did Jesus redefine human ideas of power? How do his words show that he was exercising a different kind of power, rather than just helplessness, in the face of evil? **Read Acts 1:6-8 and Ephesians 3:18-21.** What is the predominant power at work in you, in your day-to-day living? How can you know the difference between your own power and God's power at work with us?

**Tuesday—Read Luke 13:29-30 and Mark 9:33-35.** How does Jesus' portrait of his Kingdom reverse many of our human assumptions about who and what is most important? **Read Matthew 13:44-46.** How much value do you attach to God's Kingdom? What, if anything, have you "sold" in order to be a citizen of that Kingdom?

**Wednesday—Read John 12:23-33 and 2 Corinthians 3:18-19.** What did Jesus mean when he said that the hour had come for him to be glorified? If that's what glory meant for Jesus, what does it mean for you to reflect Jesus' glory in your life?

**Thursday—Read Philippians 2:1-4 and Romans 12:9-21.** In light of these verses, how can you more fully live into Jesus' kind of power in your daily life? Identify one setting or relationship in which you exercise power (formal or informal) and visualize how the power of service and self-sacrifice might change things.

**Friday—Read John 14:1-3 and 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.** We often use the phrase, "Nothing is forever." But the Bible tells us that something (or Someone) is forever, and calls us to live our life in the light of that reality. What steps will you take to detach your life and affections from this temporary world, and anchor yourself more firmly in the unseen, but eternal reality of life in God's kingdom?