

DISCIPLESHIP TODAY

A Discipleship Center Publication – July 2016

THIS MONTH'S FOCUS – God's Presence

They Said It:

"Would you like me to tell you what supported me through all the years of exile among a people whose language I could not understand, and whose attitude to me was always uncertain and often hostile? It was this: 'Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.' On these words I staked everything, and they never failed."
– David Livingstone, missionary



"The most holy and necessary practice in our spiritual life is the presence of God. That means finding constant pleasure in His divine company, speaking humbly and lovingly with Him in all seasons, at every moment, without limiting the conversation in every way. This is especially important in times of temptation, sorrow, separation from God, and even in times of unfaithfulness and sin."
– Brother Lawrence

Methodist pastor Charles Allen had a golfing buddy who others said was very foul-mouthed after bad shots. Yet Allen himself had never heard him utter a profane word. One day, Allen asked him about it, and the man replied, "When I am with my preacher, I control myself." Later, in a sermon, Allen used this in a sermon illustration. "Suppose one realized that he or she is in God's presence at all times. What a marvelous difference that would make!"

Readings from the Scriptures:

Day 1 – Exodus 33:14-15
Day 2 – I Kings 8:28
Day 3 – Psalm 89:15
Day 4 – Psalm 114:7-8

Day 5 – Matthew 28:20
Day 6 – Hebrews 13:5
Day 7 – Revelation 21:1-3

Try this Memory Verse:

"You will fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at Your right hand." (Psalm 16:11)

Your Input Counts!

At The Discipleship Center (TDC), we specialize in workshops and resources that can help you grow in Christ, with topics such as ...

...Reading and understanding the Bible	...Worship
...Relationships in God's Kingdom	...Basic Christian Beliefs
...Prayer (for ourselves and others)	...Spiritual Disciplines
...Holiness and Life in the Spirit	...Sharing your Faith
...Knowing and doing God's Will	...Christian Service

Which of these topics would you like to know more about? We can help answer your questions about these topics, recommend resources, or present a workshop. Let us know how we may assist you.

A Word of Thanks!

Your prayers, giving, encouragement, and ministry opportunities keep The Discipleship Center going and growing. Thank you for assisting us as we follow God's call to make disciples!



RESOURCE

Recommendations . . .

- One of the best books that covers the topic of God's continual presence with us is **The Practice of the Presence of God** by Brother Lawrence. It is a small, but powerful book. Read it for yourself, or reread it; use it in a small group setting or in your Sunday School class.
- A number of free, helpful discipleship resources are available at the Master's Plan Foundation website: www.mastersplan.org. At the home page click on "Discipleship Resources," and you can find helps for new Christians, direction for discipling another Christian, and other discipleship items of interest.



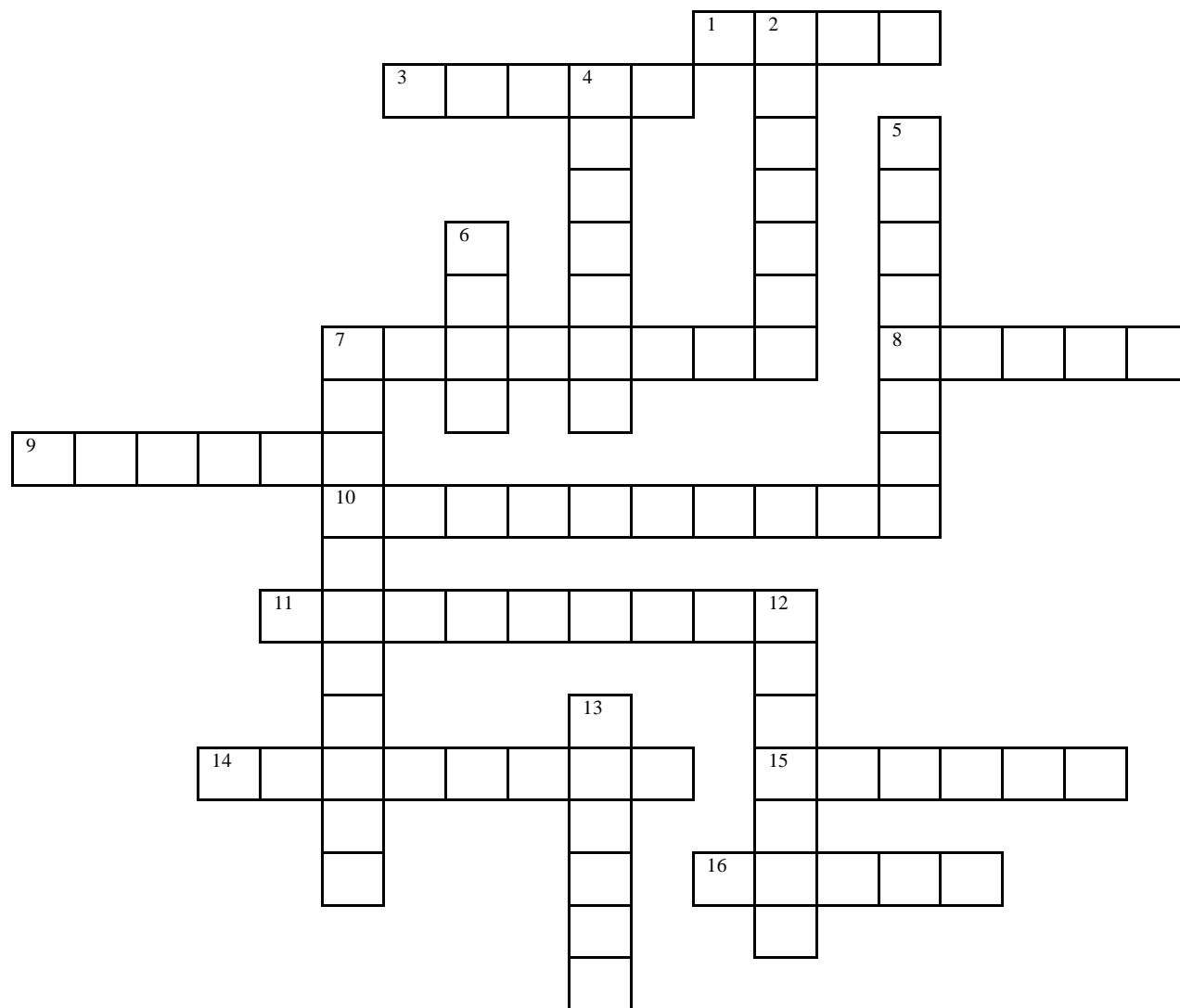
The SURVEY Says:

In 2014, the Pew Research Center (www.pewforum.org) asked Christians what they thought were top essentials for the Christian life. Some results:

- 86% - Belief in God
- 71% - Being grateful for what you have
- 69% - Forgiving those who have wronged you
- 67% - Being honest at all times
- 63% - Praying regularly
- 52% - Working to help the poor and needy
- 48% - Committing to spend time with the family
- 42% - Reading the Bible and other religious materials
- 35% - Attending religious services
- 18% - Resting on the Sabbath

For workshop information, or to become a sponsor of TDC, please see our website at www.discipleshipcenter.org or you may contact us at: Ed Darling, Founding Director, 3356 E. Genesee Street Road, Auburn, NY 13021; edarlin1@gmail.com // dcentercny60@gmail.com // (315) 256-6548.

Persons in the Book of Acts



Across

- 1 – You know him better as Paul
- 3 – Involved in stocks with Paul in Acts 16
- 7 – Son of encouragement
- 8 – Worms became a deadly issue for this king
- 9 – Imprisoned Paul appealed to him, causing
be sent to Rome
- 10 – Person to whom Acts is addressed
- 11 – Devout and God-fearing centurion; Gentile
receiving the Spirit
- 14 – Counseled the Sanhedrin to leave the Apostles
alone in Acts 5
- 15 – Got carried away in Acts 8
- 16 – Not a cat, but a king well acquainted with the Way

Down

- 2 – A great debater with the Jews, thanks
to Aquila and Priscilla
- 4 – Real estate led to his downfall
- 5 – Took Judas' place (thanks a 'lot')
- 6 – Source of a major disagreement between
Paul and Barnabas
- 7 – Only original disciple whose name starts
with B
- 12 – Stoned to death in Acts 7, but forgave
stone throwers
- 13 – Description of Simon the disciple, not
Peter