



## Sermon Notes - April 14, 2024

### Gather, Grow, Go Opportunities

- ✓ **Worship with us next week as we continue in our sermon series, "Holy Surprises!"**
- ✓ **Interested in children's ministry?**  
Talk to LuAnn Berkhof about ways to get involved.
- ✓ **Give toward our April "Love the 605", which is the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House.** This organization helps those in need of emergency shelter. They are currently building a new shelter for families in the former Children's Inn building.

### Prayer for the Week

*Almighty God, lead us forward in faith as we seek to be a sanctuary of Christian hope, love, and encouragement, now and for generations to come. Amen.*

### Grow Through Bible Study

This week's Scripture passages deal with surprising or unlikely friendships.

1. What words or phrases stand out to you in this Scripture today?
2. As you read the Scripture, what questions do you have?  
Discuss it with others, consult a biblical commentary, or study bible.
  - Day One – Acts 9:10-20
  - Day Two – Philemon vv. 8-21
  - Day Three – Acts 11:19-30
  - Day Four – Luke 23:39-43
  - Day Five – Ruth 1:6-19

### Spiritual Practice — Prayer Through Creativity

We are created in the image of God. God is a creator and so are we. Even when we think we are not creative, we often engage in activities that show this. These could include painting, writing, decorating, cooking, playing/listening to music, organizing the house, playing board games or a sport, or knitting/crocheting. It could also include selecting our clothes for the morning or some tasks at your job. In essence, there are so many creative moments throughout our days. When you are engaged in those activities, try to engage them with an attitude of prayer.

- Seek God during times of creativity this week.
- Notice what happens when you are intentional about thinking of God during creation.
- Give thanks to God.

