

# LENTEN 2019



I *See* YOU



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**SALEM BIBLE CHURCH**

2283 Baker Road, NW

Atlanta, Georgia 30318

Dear Salem Family and Friends:

*I See You* is the theme for our 2019 Lenten observation and it is our prayer that you will join with the members of your Salem family as we take the 40 days of Lent to learn about, experience and seek God to become witnesses of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. .

As we have practiced in the past, we are asking you and all of our membership to join us in a corporate fast that you will observe throughout the 40 days of Lent, from March 6<sup>th</sup> through April 20<sup>th</sup>. You are free to choose the type of fast that is best for you including fasting from certain foods, fasting from certain activities such as watching television, talking on the phone, engaging in online social media---or any other activity you are led to give up.

We are asking and expecting every member to commit to and set aside a special financial sacrifice to bring on Easter Sunday at one of the three worship services.

Other highlights of our 2018 Lenten observance include:

- A special Ash Wednesday service Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> when all of the Lenten materials will be explained and distributed
- Bible Study classes each Wednesday night at 7:00 and each Thursday at 12:00 noon at both campuses beginning March 13<sup>th</sup>
- Weekday devotional readings that all deal with some aspect of witnessing and includes space for you to record a weekly prayer journal
- A special evangelistic outreach during Holy Week when you can join with other members of the SBC family as we reach out our brothers and sister in shelters, prisons, nursing home and other locales with the gospel message
- A Community Outreach for Salem members to volunteer serving those in need from our community, Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon at both campuses
- Easter Sunday Services on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> including the 6:00 am Sunrise Service followed by Easter Sunday worship at 8:00 am and 11:00 am at both campuses.

Please note that this devotional guide will be updated and posted weekly on Salem's website ([www.salembiblechurch.org](http://www.salembiblechurch.org)) for you to retrieve at your convenience.

We pray that you will participate fully in all of the Lenten events and activities and that you will experience the joy of witnessing to all that you can. God bless you.

Dr. Joseph L. Williams, Senior Pastor

Reverend Jasper W. Williams, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

Week One: Day 1 - Wednesday, March 6, 2019

***El Roi - I See You - God***

**Scripture:**

*She gave this name to the Lord who spoke to her: “You are the God who sees me... (Genesis 16:13 – NIV)*

**Devotional Reading:**

God sees you. God sees you right now, right where you are. There is nothing that is that escapes God’s knowledge or God’s concern.

To understand that God who is omniscient (all-knowing), omnipresent (everywhere at the same time) and omnipotent (all-powerful) sees you, should give you comfort and confidence as you face the future. God reveals God’s-self to you through the situations of life that you face each day. God reveals God’s-self through God’s Word is written in the Bible. God reveals God’s-self through the people who enter your life and speak the blessing of God on your behalf.

Begin today with the very proclamation that Hannah made in today’s verse: “*You are the god who sees me*”. When you make this declaration, you will begin to see God move in your life in miraculous ways. Then you will begin to share your good news with other who need to know, no matter what---God sees you.

Be a Witness!

Week One: Day 2- Thursday, March 7, 2019

## **I See You - Jesus**

### **Scripture:**

*And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things.*

(Mark 6:34)

### **Devotional Reading**

Without fail, Jesus took notice of every person who crossed his path. His mission in life was to seek and save those who were lost. Jesus was always looking to meet the needs of those he encountered. Jesus saw the multitude and having compassion for them, he began to teach them.

Jesus sees you and Jesus is willing to teach you. Before you ask Jesus to rescue you, before you ask Jesus to deliver you, before you ask Jesus to heal you----ask Jesus to teach you.

Jesus will teach you how to live and how to live the abundant life. Jesus can teach you many things, but two things Jesus will delight in you knowing and doing are how to praise God and how to witness. To praise God is to express your gratitude for all God has done for you. To witness is to obey Jesus' command to share to good news of salvation to all within your reach.

Jesus sees you when you're alone and Jesus sees you in the middle of a crowd. Envision Jesus saying to you daily, "I see you" and let others know they too can experience the majesty of a Savior who sees all.

Be a Witness!

Week One: Day 3- Friday, March 8, 2019

## **I See You – The Holy Spirit**

### **Scripture:**

*For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.*

(1 John 5:7 – NKJV)

Just as God the Father and Jesus the Son see you, so does the Holy Spirit. The three are in perfect unity and harmony with the other---the three are one.

The witness manifested in heaven is that God desires that every person be saved. It is the work of God in the sacrifice of God's only begotten Son for us, it is the work of Jesus (his death, burial and resurrection) for us and it is the work of the Holy Spirit (to comfort and guide us) as we witness to a generation who does not know the Lord.

Before you ever think to witness to any person, the Holy Spirit already sees that person and you. Before you even begin to speak the words of the gospel, the Holy Spirit is already prepared to give you the very words you need to say. Before you extend a kind deed to a person, the Holy Spirit is already opening the way for the right time and place for you to further extend your witness.

The Holy Spirit by His presence is telling you in your witness---I see you.

Be a Witness!

Week One: Day 4- Saturday, March 9, 2019

**My Weekly Prayer Journal**

Today, my prayer for others is:

Today, my prayer for family is:

Today, my prayer for my church is:

Today, my prayer for my community is:

Today, my prayer for myself is: