

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God, we should commit to reading Scripture every day. There are questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and one will be given to you. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number of the book. The number before the colon will tell you the chapter to find. The numbers after the colon are the superscript numbers in your Bible indicating the verses to read.

Monday, Oct. 12th – 2 Samuel 8:1-18 and 1 Chronicles 18:1-17

Picking up where we left off in September, God has made a covenant with David that his family will rule over Israel forever. Today we see the graciousness of God towards David in his conquests. Both our 2 Samuel and 1 Chronicles texts tell us the same story, but with some interesting differences. We will read through 2 Samuel in study and then note the differences in 1 Chronicles. Let us start by reading verses 1-2. Whom did David conquer and what happened? Verse 2 tells us what seems a grizzly story. Why do you think this needed to be shared? Now read verses 3-8. Whom did David conquer and what was the booty that was received? Notice who made this all happen (vs. 6b). Highlight or underline it in your Bible. With that victory, who comes to visit David and what do they bring (vss. 9-10)? What did David do with all these things (vs. 11)? What did David do next (vss. 13-14)? Who actually made it all happen (vs. 14b)? With David firmly established as King over all this territory, who serves in his Court (vss. 15-18)? Now 1 Chronicles tell us the same thing with a couple of differences. The first difference is in verse 2. What is different? Why do you think the Chronicler left out the information regarding the executions? The next difference is found in verse 8. Why do you think this is relevant to the Chronicler's readers and not prior? Solomon has something to do with this answer. Now compare verse 13 in Chronicles to verse 12 in Samuel. What is different? Again, why do you think this difference mattered? Finally, what is different in verse 17 of Chronicles and verse 18 of Samuel? Technically, David's sons cannot be priests. It is almost like the Chronicler is correcting an error. What have these texts revealed to you about God? About humanity? How do these things point to Jesus?

Tuesday, Oct. 13th – Psalm 60

Today we look at Psalm 60. Read the introduction given prior to the Psalm. If your Bible does not have an introduction, here is part of what the NLT version says, "A psalm of David useful for teaching, regarding the time David fought Aram-naharaim and Aram-zobah, and Joab returned and killed 12,000 Edomites in the Valley of Salt. To be sung to the tune 'Lily of the Testimony.'" We read of these battles yesterday. Note it is a song of teaching. Verses 1-4 describe what it had been like for Israel since the time of Judges and throughout Saul's reign. Always at war with someone attacking and conquering Israel's land. In verses 5-8, we see God's promise to Israel by describing several of the tribes and their God-given contribution. Notice what it says in verse 8. In verses 9-10, you see the plea from David to God. Verses 11-12 tell us why David makes this plea. What is the primary reason (vs. 12)? Remember, this is a Psalm "useful for teaching." What lessons have you learned from this Psalm? What does it reveal to you about God? About humanity? About Jesus and our salvation?

Wednesday, Oct. 14th – 2 Samuel 9

As we move on in David's story as King of Israel, we see what mercy and love look like in a man (or woman) of God. Read verses 1-6. Who is David looking for and why (vs. 1)? Whom did he seek out first (vs. 2)? What did Ziba say and how did David respond (vss. 3-5)? Who came to David and what did David do for him (vss. 6-7)? What was Mephibosheth's response (vs. 8)? Why do you think he responded that way? Keep in mind what Pastor Shirley said about the protocols in changing kings. What does David do next (vss. 9-11)? How was this a win for Ziba and his family? What additional information do we have about Mephibosheth (vss. 12-13)? What does this reveal to us about God? What does it reveal to us about humanity? Keep in mind David's grace over wrath and fulfillment to his promise to Jonathan. How does this point to Jesus and how he treats us?

Thursday, Oct. 15th – 2 Samuel 10

After that lovely interlude from yesterday, we are back at war again today. What is the occasion that brings about this next war (vss. 1-4)? Why did the Ammonite commanders fear the ambassadors (vs. 3)? What was David's response to the Ammonite's actions (vs. 5)? As we see in verse 6, David was pretty angry. What happens next (vss. 6-14)? The first battle is won, but we are not quite done yet. What did the Ammonites do and whom did they engage to help (vss. 15-16)? How did that battle go down (vss. 17-19)? Consider the lessons in Psalm 60 this week. How do those lessons apply to this story? What is revealed to you about God? Consider that the armies run in both cases. What does this reveal about humanity? Consider the Ammonite commanders' response to the ambassadors. When do we behave like that? What does this reveal about Jesus and evil fleeing from him? Consider demons that Jesus casts out. Also consider those who attacked and killed Jesus. Who really won that battle? Spend some time in prayer thanking God for giving us the victory over evil.

Friday, Oct. 16th – 1 Chronicles 19

We close this week looking at the Chronicler's version of yesterday's story. Read the whole chapter. Did you see any differences between the two versions? There are two minor differences. The first is found in verse 4. Did you catch that they shaved the ambassadors, and not just half of their beards? Culturally it would have been worse to have only ½ of your beard. But also to have no beard was not acceptable either. The other difference is found in verse 6. While in Samuel we read that the Ammonites hired others to fight with them, in Chronicles we found out just how much they spent to lose this fight. They all ended up as servants to Israel anyway. This adds to the understanding that if God wants something to happen, we cannot even buy our way out of it. Something that the post-exilic Israel needed to remember as costs and trials occurred in rebuilding the Temple. Also, this is a lesson that we at Saint James need to remember. God has a plan for us and will see us into it, if we rely on Him and His call on our lives. We can't buy our way out, but rather live in faith that God will provide. Now that is a good lesson and revelation to end the week. Glory be to God!

Saturday, Oct. 17th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read Psalm 51.