

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. 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, November 1st – 1 Kings 4:1-19

This week we will finish Solomon's story and begin to study his writings. Today we will look at who served under Solomon and what their roles were. Read verses 1-6. These guys would have been the Executive Board on the Board of Directors for Solomon. Notice the number of priests and note the responsibilities. We see politics and faith went hand in hand. They were not separated like we are. Verse 7 describes another group of leaders. Who are they and what do they do? Verses 8-19 give you the names and locations. Read through them as they also share some additional information in some of the names, such as in verses 11 and 15. What picture do verses 20-21 paint for you? Who funds this kingdom (vs. 21b)? What does the wording in verses 20-21 remind you of (Genesis 17:1-8)? In verses 22-23 we get an idea of the sheer enormity of this. Ponder today the DAILY food requirements for the palace. That is a lot of mouths to feed. What does the author want us to know about Solomon's kingdom (vss. 24-25)? Verse 26 speaks to the wealth of Solomon. What description is given to us to grasp this wealth (vss. 26-28)? Finally, the author wants us to grasp the breadth and depth of Solomon's wisdom from God. What is shared (vss. 29-34)? We tend to read all this with 21st Century eyes. This wisdom was supernaturally imparted to Solomon. Solomon was also a prolific writer, as we will discover in the coming weeks. What do these texts reveal to you about God? Does God have a problem with us creating structure and organization? What do they reveal about us? What are we capable of doing and still honor God first and foremost? How does this point to Jesus?

Tuesday, November 2nd – 1 Kings 11

For all that Solomon achieved, much led to his downfall, as we will read today. What is the first thing listed, leading to Solomon's downfall (vss. 1-3)? What was the outcome of this (vss. 4-8)? What was God's response to Solomon's change of heart (vss. 9-13)? Meet God's response. Whom does the Lord raise up (vss. 14-22)? But that is not all whom God raised up. Who else was set as an adversary against Solomon's reign (vss. 23-25)? But that is not all. There is one more adversary, who will have a lasting impact on our journey going forward. Who is this person and what was his relationship with Solomon (vss. 27-28)? What does God have to say about what is to happen? Whom does he have tell Jeroboam (vss. 29-39)? Do you see where our journey is going to take us soon? What is Solomon's response to Jeroboam (vs. 40)? What does this reveal to you about God? What does it reveal to about humanity and about you personally? How does this point to Jesus? Consider Jesus is the King of kings. How is he different from Solomon in this case?

Wednesday, November 3rd – 2 Chronicles 9:29-30

We shift to 2 Chronicles today to see how the Chronicler finishes Solomon's story. He does it in two verses, so today will be quite short. Notice where the Chronicler sends you for "additional information" (vs. 29)? Scholars believe in part that this is so short because in his later years Solomon led Israel into worshipping idols. Therefore, the Chronicler does not want to build Solomon up any further than where he has taken us. What information does the Chronicler give us about Solomon (vs. 30)? What does this reveal about God? What does this reveal about us as humans? Consider how remembering the past changes, depending on when one is recording it. How does this point to or reveal Jesus? Will Jesus be more like David or Solomon, or both? How would you defend your answer?

Thursday, November 4th – Psalm 72

Today we will read the Psalm written by Solomon and it is about the king and giving the king wisdom. The Psalm starts off with a request and the anticipated result. What is asked for and, if granted, what is the prayer regarding the result (vss. 1-11)? With this ability to judge fairly (wisdom), in what activities will the king engage (vss. 12-14)? Notice none of these are self-indulgent. Why will the king engage in these activities (vs. 14)? Verses 15 through 17 are requests made on behalf of the king. What are the requests that are made? Notice who benefits from this prayer being answered (vs. 17)? This Psalm ends praising God. Read verse 20. Seems odd that this is Solomon's Psalm, and it ends or concludes the prayers of David. This verse means that the second part or book of Psalms is complete, and David was the major writer of all these Psalms. So, verse 20 closes this section of Psalms. What does this Psalm reveal to you about God? What does it reveal to you about humanity and yourself? How does this point to or reveal Jesus? Consider verses 11-14 and 17. How would or should you praise God today for what he has done for you and your family and the church?

Friday, November 5th – Proverbs 1

Welcome to Friday and our first look at Proverbs. As we explore Proverbs, some will have themes and others pithy statements that are not necessarily related. As Pastor Shirley explained, where Psalms is about our relationship with God, Proverbs is more focused on how we live our lives and our relationship with others. But keep in mind our relationship with others does affect our relationship with God. Let's begin. Who is the author and what is the purpose of Proverbs (vss. 1-3)? Who will benefit from these Proverbs and what is the benefit (vss. 4-6)? Now that we have the preliminaries done, where do we begin (vs. 7)? Verses 8-19 cover a father's teaching to his child. Read the text and then come back. What is the father telling the son to do (vs 8-9)? Now go back to verses 10-19. Read these verses again and let your Heavenly Father be the one instructing you in these verses. When have you been obedient to these words? When have you ignored them? As we move on, wisdom is personified as a woman. What is she doing and what is her frustration (vss. 20-25)? Since they will not listen, what will be her response at the results (vss. 26-28)? What does this say about wisdom? You need it to prevent calamity, before calamity comes, because asking for wisdom in the midst of calamity is too late! What is the result of not learning wisdom early on (vss. 29-32)? What is the result if you choose God's wisdom (vs. 33)? Know that all wisdom (including Solomon's) comes from God. What does this reveal to you about God? What does it reveal to you about us – humanity? Where do you find yourself more often than not? A rejector of wisdom or student of wisdom? How does this point to Jesus who embodies all of God's wisdom? Spend some time today pondering the past week. Where did you reject wisdom? Where did you seek wisdom? Where will you need wisdom in the coming week? Do not forget that James tells us to ask God for wisdom and that God promises to grant it. Then you need to use it.

Saturday, November 6th - For tomorrow please read Ephesians 2:16-22.