

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, Nov 23rd – 2 Samuel 21:1-14

This week we start off and there are no rebellions facing David. However, there are still problems. What problem will we start off with this week (vs. 1)? What has God revealed to David regarding the reason for the famine? If you recall back in Joshua, the Gibeonites tricked Israel into making an oath not to hurt the Gibeonites, pretending they had traveled a long way when they were really neighbors. Saul broke that oath out of a zeal for Israel. But the oath was broken nonetheless. Now God wants this wrong addressed. How does David go about reparations and what do the Gibeonites ask for (vss. 2-6a)? How does David respond to their request (vs. 6b)? Whom does David select and whom does David protect (vs. 7-9)? What happens after this (vs. 10)? How does David respond to this reaction (vss. 11-14)? While a very gruesome story, there was closure that came from it on several fronts. What does this reveal to you about God and the importance of being faithful to our oaths? Does God forget? What does this reveal about us? Keep in mind, God did not tell David to kill seven of Saul's relatives. That was between the Gibeonites and David. How does this point to Jesus? What other mother is standing where her child is dying? How was Jesus given up for us? Spend some time in prayer thanking God for this Word today.

Tuesday, Nov 24th – 2 Samuel 21:15-22 and 1 Chronicles 20:4-8 – Thanksgiving Worship 7:00 pm

This week we return to 1 Chronicles and see that both readings give us details regarding a surge of battles that occur. Start by reading 1 Chronicles 20:4-8. Who are David and Israel fighting against now (vs. 4)? As you can see, there seem to be several battles with the Philistines. What common aspect of the Philistines does the Chronicler speak of in each battle (5-7)? What is the Chronicler's point in describing the events this way (vs. 8)?

Now let's return to 2 Samuel 21 and look at what that author has to tell us. Read verses 15-17. What almost happens and what is decided to prevent it from happening again? As you will see, verses 18-22 are almost identical to what the Chronicler wrote. Remember, the Chronicler is writing to inspire and motivate his readers as they rebuild Jerusalem. Reading that David is too old to fight is probably not inspiring enough to keep them going, so it is omitted. Considering that all of these "giants" were defeated by David and his men, what does that reveal to you about God? About us as humans? How does it point to Jesus? What giant did Jesus defeat and how is that good news for us?

Wednesday, Nov. 25th – 2 Samuel 22:1-25

The rest of this week we will be reading a couple of David's songs of praise. How appropriate, being Thanksgiving week. The entire Chapter 22 of 2 Samuel is David's Song of Praise. Let's dive in and see what David is praising God for in these verses. Why and when did David sing this song (vs. 1)? Note that it is not just being saved from Saul, but from all his enemies. Hence this is why it falls here in the chronological reading. This song has three parts to it. Today we will see how God rescues David from threats to his life and let's face it, David has had many threats to his life! Verses 2-3 describe how David views God in light of his life. What are some of the descriptions of God David uses? As we move to verses 5-7, David describes what some of those moments of threat felt like. How does he describe his experiences? Verses 8-16 are David's description on how God responded. David is describing a personal experience of God's response to his cry. What sort of pictures does David use? Notice the use of nature and elements. Moving along, verses 17-20 are a description of how God saved David. Imagine a time when you felt like you were sinking into what seemed an abyss of deep water. Did you sense God's presence reaching down to save you like David? Do you think God still does this? If not, why not? We finish this part of David's song with a description of his relationship with God and the reason God comes to save David. Read verses 21-25. Why does God relate to David? What has David declared about himself? Makes one wonder about the Bathsheba and Uriah mess, doesn't it? But what if David understood that he was forgiven and though he lived through the consequences of that sin, he returned to God and became the man described here once more? What if he understood that God did not hold his sin against him, but that forgiveness from God was complete? What would that reveal about God? About you and your relationship with God? How does this point to Jesus as the guarantor of being completely forgiven before God, because you believe? Ponder these things in gratitude today.

Thursday, November 26th – 2 Samuel 22:26-51 – Happy Thanksgiving

Happy Thanksgiving! What a way to celebrate by completing David's song of praise! Let us begin by reading verses 26-30. What do you show to the world? Are you... Faithful? Pure? Wicked? Proud? Humble? What does God see (vs. 28)? When we are not sure and feel surrounded by darkness and enemies, what does David remind us of about God (vss. 29-30)? Verses 31-37 describe God to us. Again, look at the descriptions David gives to God. Which of these have you experienced? We continue with verses 38-46. How has God blessed and provided for David? What were the results (vss. 44-46)? We finish this song with what is referred to as "book ends" in that it ends the way it started. What does David declare about God and how does it tie into verses 2-3 (vss. 47-51)? Let's end by reading verse 51 again. How does this verse point to both David and to Jesus? How does it point to us (remember we are grafted into the line of David through Jesus, when we became believers)? What does this ending to the song reveal to you about God? About you and the relationship you can have with God? Remember to give thanks to God today for being your Rock of Salvation, shield, defender, and protector. After all, you were blessed to be born in this time and in this place. We are VERY blessed and have much to be thankful for today!

Friday, Nov. 27th – Psalm 18

We close this week with Psalm 18. Another song of praise from David and almost as long as 2 Samuel 22. It is almost identical to what we have already studied. Let us start by reading the entire Psalm once through and then let's look at some subtle difference between the two songs. Note how verse 18 begins, compared to verses in 2 Samuel 22. What is the difference? Verse 12 is also different from 2 Samuel 22:13. What is the difference? When we read verses 32-34 we are reminded that God does not remove our battles, but rather provides for our needs, so we can meet the battle and overcome. This is where growth in faith and maturity come. Think about the battles where we call out to God to help us. What might it look like if we lived like David, always turning to God first, trusting he will handle our battles, big and small, by equipping us for what we face? How does this point to Jesus and God's provision that way through him? Consider what you would say in a song praising God for the battles you have overcome. What would you say or sing? Take some time today to actually do just that – Praise God like David did.

Saturday, Nov 28th – In preparation for tomorrow's worship, please read Isaiah 9:2-7.