

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, Feb. 3rd – Judges 10

This week we will look at and read about 6 judges of Israel. Five will be very short, while one is the full story. We start today with two of the judges. Who are they and how long did they serve as judges (vss. 1-5)? What facts does the author provide regarding these judges? Notice that we don't know what kingdom they saved Israel from or what ruler? As we move to our third judge, the writer of Judges gives us a glimpse as to why Israel needed another judge. What has happened (vss. 6-9)? What does this oppression lead to and what is God's response (vss. 10-14)? This is not good news, but what does Israel do (vss. 15-16)? Notice God's reaction over Israel's predicament (vs. 16b)? The final piece of the stage is set. What is going to happen (vss. 17-18)? War is coming and while God grieves, there is no promise he will help. But at least Israel repents, turns away from false idols, and turns back to God, obeying and worshipping only Him. What does this reveal to you about God and his dealing with our perpetual sinfulness? What does this say about us and how easily we are led astray and away from God? How does this point to the need for Jesus and the Holy Spirit guiding our lives? Consider where God is leaving you in the pigpen today. What is it you need to repent of and to turn back to God?

Tuesday, Feb 4th – Judges 11:1-13

Today we will read the full story of the judge, Jephthah. Let's start with some background information in verses 1-3. Remember, this is the guy God is going to make the judge and save Israel. Not all of God's servants have a pristine background. But as things heat up, we see that fickle relatives become less fickle. How does this come about for Jephthah (vss. 4-10)? Doesn't God have a great sense of humor! So, what happens (vss. 11-13)? Jephthah went from exiled to ruler in no time flat. What was the king of Ammon's rationale for going to war? What would prevent the war (vs. 13b)? What does this reveal to you about God and what He can and will do to make what needs to happen, happen? What does this reveal to you about humanity and its fickle behavior? How did Jesus both experience this fickle behavior towards himself and how did he show us how not to be so fickle? Whom do you not pay attention to or reject? Why might you need to reconsider?

Wednesday, Feb 5th – Judges 11:14-28

We left off yesterday with Israel preparing to go to war against the Ammonites. The king of Ammon's proposal was to give them back their land and there would be no war. Today we will read Jephthah's response to the Ammonite king. It is a little history lesson, correcting the Ammonite king's version of the story. Jephthah takes the story back to Exodus and the wilderness travels. What does he say happened to Israel by the then inhabitants (vss. 14-22)? So, with all that had happened, who took away their land (vs. 23)? At this point Jephthah brings a counteroffer to the king of Ammon. What is the counteroffer (vss. 24-25)? Verses 26-27 are Jephthah's final remarks on the subject. What are they? What is the king of Ammon's reaction (vs. 28)? With the history recap today, what were you reminded of about God? What does this reveal to you about humanity? Consider that 300 years later, they want the land back and changed the story to create a narrative that fits their wants. How does this relate to how we rewrite history to suit our desires? How does this point to Jesus? Spend some time today pondering the narrative of Jesus. Notice that the story remains the same, but we twist it to suit our needs. It says a lot about the lens we use when we read the stories. Where might you be misreading or changing the narrative?

Thursday, Feb 6th – Judges 11:29-40

As we continue Jephthah's story, we start off with Jephthah receiving a gift. What did God give Jephthah (vs. 29)? What did he do, once he received this gift? Now that the army is gathered, what does Jephthah do (vss. 30-31)? What a noble vow. How does this point to Jephthah's understanding that victory will only come by the power of God? So, what are the results of this battle (vss. 32-33)? Now that victory has been secured and Jephthah returns home, what happens (vss. 34-35)? We need to be cautious when we make vows to God. What does Jephthah allow his daughter to do (vss. 36-38)? What happens upon her return (vss. 39-40)? What does this reveal about God? What does this reveal about humans? We do have a tendency to mean well but to be rash. Jesus addresses these things in Matthew 5:34-37. How might this have helped Jephthah? Have there been promises in your life you made to God and then failed to keep because they were too difficult? Do you think it pleases God when we fail to live up to our promises? What can we do to begin living more faithfully to our word?

Friday, Feb 7st – Judges 12

We will finish our study of Jephthah today and it doesn't start off well. Who is upset with him and why (vs. 1)? What was Jephthah's response (vs. 2)? So, what happens (vss. 3-7)? What is the lesson we should walk away with from this story? How long was Jephthah judge? That is pretty short compared to our other judges and yet he got the full story. Why do you think that is? What do we learn from Jephthah's experiences? We will finish this week looking at the next three judges. Who is the next judge and what are we told about him (vss. 8-10)? How many years was he judge? Who became judge after him and how long was he judge (vss. 11-12)? Notice we know nothing else about him. Finally, who is our sixth judge today and what do we learn about him (vss. 13-15)? It is believed that having so many riding donkeys was a sign of wealth. Also, in comparison, those who followed and went before had many children, compared to our main judge this week who had an only child whom he sacrificed due to a rash oath. What does this tell you about God and His involvement in Israel's history? With the fact that there are so many judges, what does that tell you about the Israelites (and ourselves)? How does this point to Jesus being our judge? How is he like these judges? How is he superior to them?

Saturday, Feb 8th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read Judges 13:1-7.