

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, May 11th – 1 Samuel 4

We continue the story of Samuel today with an update as to what is going on in Israel. What is happening (vss. 1)? How is it going (vs. 2)? So, what does Israel determine is the solution and what is the reaction when it arrives (vss. 3-5)? What was the Philistines' reaction (vss. 6-9)? What was the result (vss. 10-11)? Did you notice who died (vs. 11)? My, we have come a long way, haven't we? As we continue, we see a man who escaped the battle arrive in Shiloh to share the news. What was the response (vss. 12-13)? What happens when the man tells Eli (vss. 14-18)? But that is not all. Now read verses 19-22. What else happens? How does this fulfill what we read last Friday? Look at verse 22. What does she mean by "the glory?" Pastor Shirley discussed this in her message. Was this truthful? How is our understanding different today? What does this reveal about God? What does this reveal about us as humanity? How do we try to manipulate God to get our own way? What "ark" do we carry into battle thinking God will have to respond the way we want Him to? How does this point to Jesus and obedience? Spend some time in prayer today asking God to show you where His presence is so that you may join Him rather than insisting God join you.

Tuesday, May 12th – 1 Samuel 5

With Eli, Israel's judge for 40 years, and his sons dead, and the Ark of the Covenant captured, it does seem that God is absent or at least tarrying for now. Today we will see whether that is true or not. Read verses 1-5. What happens to the Ark of the Covenant? I guess all gods will bow before the One True God! But it was not just the statue of Dagon that was affected. Who else began to suffer and how (vss. 6-8)? What decision was made regarding the Ark of the Covenant and what happens next (vs. 9)? Where did it go next and what happened (vss. 10-12)? What does this story reveal to you about God? What does it say about humanity? What does it say about the false gods we worship? Do we even know what or who those false gods are? How, when Jesus returns, will we be keenly aware of our false gods?

Wednesday, May 13th – 1 Samuel 6:1-12

We continue the Ark of the Covenant story today. How long was the Ark in the Philistine's possession and what concern do they question their priests about (vss. 1-2)? What do Dagon's priests tell the Philistine leaders to do and why (vss. 3-9)? Did you notice who they are warned not to be like (vs. 6)? Do the Philistines do as they are told (vs. 10)? What happens (vss. 11-12)? Did the Philistines get their answer? What does this reveal to you about God? Does God need us to defend or protect Him? What does this reveal to you about humanity and unbelievers? Did you notice that they did not change to worship God, but to show honor to God (vs. 5)? How does this point to Jesus (think Palm Sunday with cows, not a donkey)? What in this story inspires you to more deeply ponder the "holiness" of God? What might need to change in your walk with God this week because of this story?

Thursday, May 14th – 1 Samuel 6:13 – 7:2

Today we find out what happens when the Ark is returned to Israel. Where again did the Ark return and what was the people's response (vss. 13-15)? Who was watching and what was their response and who sent the offerings (vss. 16-18)? But not everything is going well. What happens next (vss. 19-21)? Why did God kill 70 Israelites (vs. 19)? The return of the Ark does not allow disobedience. Where does the Ark find its next home (vss. 7:1-2)? Why did the people mourn (vs. 2)? What does this reveal about God this week? Consider the statement that God says what He means and means what He says and doesn't bend the rules. What does this reveal about humanity? Consider the Philistine response as well as the Israelite response. What will be different in how you live your life, because of what you learned today?

Friday, May 14th – 1 Samuel 7

We finish this week by remembering the Judge Eli is dead, along with his sons. Samuel will now move into the position of Judge and will in fact be the last Judge of Israel. We will see in this chapter Samuel acting and serving in the traditional (early Judges') form of a judge. What is the first thing Samuel calls the people to do and how do they respond (vss. 1-6)? Obedience to God's instructions and repentance are imperative to demonstrate your faithfulness to God. How did the Philistines respond to what they heard was happening (vss. 7)? With the battle pending, what happens (vss. 8-11)? Notice it is God who sets up the win for Israel. The Israelites are the clean-up guys. Verse 12 tells us how Samuel commemorated the battle. What did he do and what did it mean? Verses 13-14 give us a summary of the aftermath of the battle and of Israel's regaining territory lost to the Philistines. How did Samuel judge Israel (vss. 15-17)? How long was he a judge? What does this text reveal to you about God and His mercy and power? What does this reveal to you about our human nature? How does this point to Jesus as our Judge and the mercy and love we are given? Where might you need to repent and obey today before your righteous judge, Jesus?

Saturday, May 15th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read 1 Samuel 10:17-24.