

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, July 12th – Psalm 140

This will be our last week in David's Psalms. Let's start by reading through Psalm 140. What does David pray for and who does he pray against (vss. 1-5)? What does David declare about God and why (vss. 6-7)? With that declaration, David then continues his requests to God. David prays about three groups of people in verses 8-11. What group is he praying about and what does he ask God to do in each group? In verses 12-13, David shifts his focus to another group. Who makes up this group? What does he say God will do for them? What does this Psalm reveal to you about God? Consider what David believes God can do. What does this reveal to you about humanity? In which of these groups would you be involved today? In which group do you think God desires us to take part? How does this Psalm point to or reveal Jesus? Consider Jesus' life described in the Gospels and verses 11-12.

Tuesday, July 13th – Psalm 141

Our Psalm today is a prayer for help but not the usual prayer for help. Take a moment to read through the Psalm and then return here for the devotion. Okay, what is the prayer of help that David is asking (vss. 3-4)? How does David start off asking for this help (vss. 1-2)? These are signs of humility and helplessness before God. David is aware of the temptation before him and needs God's help to not fall into sin. In the first part of verse 5, what is David speaking about? This means David would gladly accept correction from the godly. How did he describe his correction? Do you accept correction, or do you resist it? What happens if you resist? How else is David fighting against the temptation (vs. 5b-7)? Consider how the correction (by death) of the wicked leaders might be used to turn the leaders' followers away from wickedness. David ends this psalm again asking for help. From what situations does David seek rescue (vss. 8-10)? What does this reveal to you about God, especially when it comes to sin? What does this reveal about us as humans regarding sin and temptation? Do we have to sin? Is there an out for us? What does this reveal about our ability to accept correction from a brother or sister in the faith? Do you accept correction or fight correction? How does this point to Jesus? Consider the temptations Jesus faced. Did he give into them? What was his defense in times of temptation (Matthew 4:1-11)? What can we learn from Jesus?

Wednesday, July 14th – Psalm 143

Psalm 143 is a prayer of David in a time of hopelessness and depression. Most of us have experienced these at one time or another in our lives. We will probably face them again some day and this Psalm is a great one to pray in those times. David starts out with a plea to God and a call to answer. Why does David believe God will answer (vs. 1)? Then there is a request to not be put on trial before God. Perhaps David thought all this was trial from God. Why does David ask God not to put him on trial (vs. 2)? We are all in the same boat with David. What is the first problem in this prayer and where has it led David to be emotionally (vss. 3-4)? What does David remember and long for (vss. 5-6)? Besides hopelessness, David is suffering another way. What is David suffering (vs. 7)? Verses 8-12 list a series of requests together with why David believes God should fulfill them. Take a moment and write out the list of requests on one side of a piece of paper under a column labeled "Request" and then list across from this request under another column labeled "Because" the reason David gives to God to fulfill the request. As you write these out, consider what this reveals to you about God. What does it reveal about humanity and our need for God? Finally, consider how these verses point to the life and relationship with the Father that Jesus demonstrated to us. How did Jesus fulfill this list through his example of relying on the Father? Take time today, if you are struggling and feel hopeless and pray this Psalm to your Father.

Thursday, July 15th – Psalm 144

Our theme today is praising the care and relationship with God. Take a moment now and read through this Psalm of David. David praises God for various experiences with God. What does David praise God for (vss. 1-2)? In light of this glorious relationship with God, David ponders the enormity of it all. What is it that David ponders (vss. 3-4)? It is pretty amazing that God desires to be and is so involved with our lives. The infinite and holy completely in love with the finite, created, screw-ups. Moving on, David calls on God to help do what and why (vss. 5-11)? What will David do upon God's acting in this way (vss. 9-10)? But before David can do this, what needs to happen (vs. 11)? It is at this juncture that we see a shift in the Psalm. It turns to address what subject (vs. 15)? So, what does living in joy look like according to David (vss. 12-14)? Victory over enemies and life in peace will bring joy. What does this reveal to you about God and His desire to be in your life? What does this reveal about humanity? How does this point to Jesus and the joy of life eternal we receive from Him? It is the life everlasting that helps us have joy, even when we do not have all the materialistic prosperity described in this Psalm. What would you like to praise God for today? Where has He been moving in your life?

Friday, July 16th – Psalm 145

Today we will conclude David's Psalms. Psalm 145 is an acrostic Psalm where each phrase begins with the next letter of the Hebrew alphabet. This is a pure Psalm of Praise. What a great way to end David's psalms. Take a moment and read through the Psalm, then return to the devotion. What reasons does David give to extol and praise God (vss. 1-3)? David continues by telling us who will be sharing God's word with others. Whom does David list as those who will share (vss. 4-7 and 10-12)? Notice in verse 5 what David will be doing. In verse 8-9 and 13-20, David describes the acts of God that warrant all this sharing. What does David reveal to us about God? Notice that this is God's reaction to those who love, follow, are oppressed, and repent. There is one statement about how he acts towards the wicked. What is God's action (vs. 20)? Verse 21 is the final praise and call to everyone to bless God's name. We can do so because of all that was shared with us in verses 13-20. Take a moment and go back to read verses 13-20. What do these verses reveal to you about God? Which of these things have you personally experienced? Since David says we should all share with others our experiences with God, with whom have you shared recently? How does this Psalm point to Jesus? How does it reveal what God does for us through Jesus? Spend some time today or tomorrow sharing with others, as well as praising and blessing God's holy name.

Saturday, July 17th – For tomorrow, please read Psalm 88.