

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 13th – 1 Samuel 26

We start off this week with men from Ziph. What do they do and what happens (vss. 1-4)? Once David gets word of this, he makes a plan. What is it (vss. 5-7)? What does Abishai offer (vs. 8)? What is David's response and the reasoning behind his response (vss. 9-11)? What did David do instead (vs. 12-14)? Why do you think David called out to Abner? What does David tell Abner (vss. 15-16)? Notice who chimes in at verse 17. What does David ask and complain about to Saul (vss. 17b-20)? What is Saul's response to David (vs. 21)? We have heard this before, haven't we? Do you remember what Jesus teaches about this scenario (Matthew 17:21-22)? How does this encounter end (vss. 22-25)? What did this chapter reveal to you about God? Consider God's confirmation to David about Ziph and the need to forgive each time someone asks. How does this demonstrate God being consistent? What does this reveal to you about humanity? Consider what we as humans are capable of from the behavior of the men in Ziph, to David to Abishai to Saul and Abner. How does this point to Jesus and the fact that even when he was hunted, he did not kill, slander or maim anyone? Who are you in this story? Would you sell someone out to save your own neck? Would you stand faithful to God? Would you seek out and attack those of whom you are frightened? Or are you asleep on the job? Spend some time as you go through your day and determine how you respond to things going on to see which person you are.

Tuesday, July 14th – 1 Samuel 27:1-7

Today we have just a few verses. Let's read them first. What was David's concern? Was he right to have this concern? Where does David go and whom does he take with him? Consider why David would take these folks with him. How would they help in Gath? How does it protect those who are with him? Was this plan successful (vs. 4)? We then read that David moves out of the royal city, but asks permission. What town does King Achish give David? With 600 men and a couple wives, David's group is a small town unto themselves. How long did they live there? Now this doesn't seem so enlightening, except that we do need to remember that we are reading about the future King of Israel, who is now living in enemy territory. Based on what has been revealed to us about God, do you think this adventure of David's will be put to good use? What does it reveal about God and his ability to protect? What does it reveal about humanity? Which stories of Jesus does this mirror, when Jesus goes where most Jews won't go (John 4:1-10 and Matthew 8:28-34)? What do you walk away with today from these texts? Where has the Holy Spirit led you where you were protected, in spite of your surroundings?

Wednesday, July 15th – 1 Chronicles 12:1-7

Now we will turn to a Chronicles passage tied to what we read yesterday. Read all seven verses. How does this tie into yesterday's text (vs. 1)? Did you notice what these guys were good at? Did you notice that they are all ambidextrous? What other tidbit of interesting information do we learn (vs. 2b)? What does this reveal to you about what is going on back home? Otherwise, why would Saul's relatives be leaving? Where do you see the providence of God in this text? How does the Chronicler use this to encourage you? What does it say about humanity? How does this point to Jesus and to those who followed him? Jesus started with twelve followers. How many followers does he have today? Are you truly one of them? Do you swear allegiance to Jesus as these men swore allegiance to God and David?

Thursday, July 16th – 1 Samuel 27:8-12

Now we will finish 1 Samuel 27. We left off with David moving to Gath and then King Achish giving him the town of Ziklag to live in. David had 600 men and two wives and yesterday we saw another thirty had joined him. Now that David is no longer under the keen watch of the king, what do David and his men do (vss. 8-9)? When David returns to the king, how does he answer the king's question of where he had recently raided (vss. 10-11)? How did David get away with that bold-faced lie (vs. 11)? We hear lying is never good. Is that the case in this situation? What was the result of this lie (vs. 12)? Well, David definitely has the king fooled, doesn't he? What revelations do you see here about God? About humanity? Consider how these raids kept the men in shape and defeated some of Israel's enemies.

Friday, July 17th – 1 Samuel 28

Today is the beginning of the end of Saul's reign as king. Verses 1-3 give us what we need to know as we enter the last stories of Saul. The war between the Philistines will actually take place in chapter 31, but we know it is coming. Note David's expected role in all of this. Also, Saul had banned mediums who consulted the dead, as was commanded by God in Leviticus and Deuteronomy. As we continue, read verses 4-6. What is the problem? As you continue to vs. 7, what is the solution according to Saul? So, Saul goes to the woman of Endor and what happens (vss. 8-11)? Well, Saul was never big on obedience, was he? When the medium does as Saul asks, what happens (vss. 12-15)? What does Samuel tell Saul (vss. 16-19)? What is Saul's response to this information (vss. 20)? How does this part of the story end (vss. 21-25)? Imagine knowing you were going to die tomorrow at the hands of another's army? Jesus knew how Saul felt, when he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane waiting for the events to unfold leading to his death the next day. What does this reveal about God? Consider that the prophecy about Saul is going to come true. David has a small army and is ready to lead. God did not change his mind. Consider what this reveals about humanity. Saul's fear still drove him to disobey God's laws and he continually rationalized his disobedience. What fears or loss of control drive you to disobedience? What can we learn from Jesus about facing our own deaths? It is not always easy, but through Jesus it is not the end either, is it? Finally, why do you think it is forbidden to check in with the dead? We really don't know much about the spirit realm and therefore we should not be messing around with it. Most "mediums" today are showmen, not true mediums. But since that is the case, there is an inherent danger to those who mess with and try to contact the dead.

Saturday, July 18th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read *John 6:1-11*.