

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, Sept. 18th – Job 3

The stage has been set in chapters 1 and 2. We begin the journey of suffering with the question, “Why?” This chapter is referred to as a lament—a grieving and moaning over a serious loss or dire situation. After learning last week as to what had happened to Job and Satan’s attempt to get him to curse God, Job’s life is worthy of lamenting. What is this first lament going to be about (vs. 1)? What does he wish for in this part of the lament (vss. 1-10)? Job wishes his conception or birth to have been as dark as that day was dark for him: he wishes he had never been conceived or born. Why would being still-born or never conceived be better, according to Job (vss. 14-19)? During times of bad news or impending/current suffering, a common question is “Why?” Read verses 11-13 and 20-23. Job has why questions. What are they? What does he believe to be better options than suffering (vss. 13, 21 and 22)? We finish off with Job’s analysis of the situation. What is his conclusion (vss. 24-26)? Have you ever felt this way in your life? There was no way out. There was no peace, quietness in your soul, or rest. We have all felt or will feel like Job sometime during our lives. Suffering is part of human life. Some will experience minor loss or suffering, while others will experience great loss or suffering. God, as we know here, is not the cause of our suffering, but does permit suffering to exist. Even Jesus, God incarnate, experienced and persevered through suffering. Lamenting is one way of expressing our suffering to God. God is big enough to handle our laments and our whys. That is a good thing and a blessing for us. Spend some time thanking God for not abandoning you during your times of suffering, and pray asking that he give you the strength of Jesus to persevere.

Tuesday, Sept. 19th – Job 4

Following Job’s lamentation, Eliphaz, Job’s friend, no longer stays silent. How does he begin his reply to Job (vs. 2)? He begins by talking about the good things that Job has done. What are they (vss. 3-4)? Yet how does he use these good actions against Job (vss. 5-6)? There is an insinuation that if Job was doing these things from a pure heart that he would not be lamenting. So maybe Job’s response to lamenting is revealing Job’s true colors. Was this not Satan’s point to God all along? Now read verses 7-11. How does Eliphaz’s imagery of the lion with broken teeth tie into Job’s current situation? This is a very logical argument, one that we actually read throughout Scripture. Those who do evil will eventually suffer from their evil. They will not fool God. How does Eliphaz support his opinion and observation (vs. 17)? Where does he claim he got this information (vss. 12-16)? Do you agree or disagree with his observation? As we finish our readings today, what is Eliphaz’s point (vss. 18-21)? How does this apply to Job? Eliphaz is speaking about righteousness, that no one is righteous before God, not even angels. Is that true about Job? God has declared Job blameless and having integrity. It is God who declares who is righteous and who is not. Considering Eliphaz’s argument thus far, do you agree with him? Most people, if they are honest, have probably used these arguments and there are probably times that this argument is accurate. But why not this time? What does this reveal about God? What does this reveal about us? What might you need to change about your thinking when it comes to righteousness and God?

Wednesday, Sept. 20th – Job 5

Today we will finish Eliphaz’s speech to Job. We will see a shift in Eliphaz’s response from insinuation of a lack of sincerity in Job’s faith to ridicule for how Job is responding to his suffering. Read verses 1-7. How does what Eliphaz say match up to what happens to Job in chapters 1 and 2? Who does Eliphaz state is the perpetrator of these calamities (vss. 2 and 7)? Now read verse 8. What shift in the tone of the conversation has taken place? Why does Eliphaz give this advice (vss. 9-16)? Is what he says true? Yes, it is true. But is it applicable in Job’s case? Now read the rest of Eliphaz’s advice (vss. 17-26)? What is the insinuation in verse 17? As you read verses 18-26, imagine being Job hearing it. What would you be thinking? Would you be comforted by these words? What is the basis for this advice (vs. 27)? Nothing Eliphaz says is untrue, the problem is it doesn’t apply in Job’s case. What does this teach us about giving advice? What does this teach us about who God is? What does this teach you about yourself?

Thursday, Sept. 21st – Job 6:1–7-6

We have finished with Eliphaz’s comments to Job and will today begin to read Job’s response. Keep in mind that Eliphaz’s response was because of Job’s lament in chapter 3. What is Job’s justification for his earlier lament (vss. 1-7)? Do you think he makes a good point? Have you ever justified your complaints? Verses 8-13 are again a lament. What does Job wish God would do (vss. 8-9) and why (vss. 10-13)? Now the conversation shifts and Job responds directly to Eliphaz’s words. Of what does Job accuse Eliphaz (vs. 14)? In verses 15-21 Job shares his disappointment in his friends’ response to his suffering. What illustrations does he use? Have you ever been so thirsty and not been able to find something to quench it? In verses 22-27 Job challenges the responses to his lamenting with a series of questions. How do these questions point to helpful and unhelpful responses? Finally, in verses 28-30, what plea/point does Job make to his friends? Do you sense his frustration? Do you ever get that frustrated with those trying to help you? What can you learn from Job in these situations? What can you learn about deeply listening to others who are suffering, so as not to make the mistakes of Eliphaz? What do you learn from Job about helping others who are suffering? We finish by reading 7:1-5. What is Job’s point in this passage? He is like everyone else. He is like “Look at me! I am miserable!” But for Job there is no reason why he should be suffering. After all, he did nothing wrong. And let’s not forget, he is correct.

Friday, Sept. 22nd – Job 7:7

We will finish this week by looking at Job’s cry to God. What does Job remind God of in verses 7-10? What complaint does Job address with God (vss. 11-14)? What does Job wish for (vss. 15-16)? We move back to complaining in verses 17-19. What is Job’s complaint? Following this complaint, what does Job ask God (vss. 19-21a)? In essence Job is asking for forgiveness rather than punishment, though he can’t figure out why he is being punished. Do you think Eliphaz’s speech was getting to Job? Why does Job ask God these questions (vs. 21b)? As discussed Sunday, the understanding of death was once someone died they went to Sheol, a space of nothingness, where they were never again present before God. Job is asking God if that is what God wants—to torture Job and then to see him no more. What does this reveal about us? What does this reveal about God? And where do you see the work of Jesus foreshadowed in this text?

Saturday, Sept 23rd – In preparation for tomorrow’s worship, please read Job 9:32-35.