

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God, we should commitment 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. 7th – 2 Samuel 1

We return to our Journey through the Bible for the fall. As you recall, Saul and his sons are dead. David just won a war against the Amalekites for their raid on Ziklag and have returned home. David doesn't know what has happened. This is where we start the continuation of our Journey Through the Bible. Who comes to David and what news does he bring (vss. 1-10)? How does the story of the Amalekites agree and differ from the end of 1 Samuel? What was the response of David and his men to the news (vss. 11-12)? Once the mourning was completed, what happened next (vss. 13-16)? Why was it important for David to do this? David then does what David does best, he wrote a song, a funeral song for Saul and Jonathan. Read his song in verses 17-27. What strikes you about this song? Consider David is singing the praises of God's first anointed king and his dear beloved friend Jonathan. Also consider that David is singing the praises of the man who has sought to kill him now for years. What does this text reveal to you about God? What does it reveal about humanity and our ability to rise above our selfishness? How does this point to Jesus and the songs we sing today? Spend some time reading David's song. Pick one verse and memorize it as the Holy Spirit leads you.

Tuesday, Sept. 8th – 2 Samuel 2:1-3:1

With Saul dead, there is a vacancy in the role of king in Israel. That is what we will begin to address today. But remember, David is in Philistine territory. So how does chapter 2 start and why is it important (vss. 1-4a)? So, Judah (one tribe) of Israel has anointed David as the king. What is the first thing David does as king (vss. 4b-7)? While God anointed David as king fifteen years previously, and Judah has anointed him king now, the transition is not going to go smoothly. What happens to mess things up (vss. 8-11)? This decision demonstrates the decision of God against the foolish wisdom of men. Notice the length of time each king ruled. David ruled Judah 7 years while Ishbosheth only reigned for 2 years. That will help explain much of the rest of today's readings. As we move on, what happens next (vss. 12-17)? And the battle is on. We need to remember some of the texts from 1 Samuel and 1 Chronicles that described David's 600 men and their fighting skills. Today we will read about one of those men, Asahel. Read his story in verses 18-23. What happens next (vss. 24-25)? What words of wisdom does Abner speak and what effect do these words have on Joab and Abishai (vss. 26-31)? After Joab and Abashai buried Asahel, what is the set-up for the rest of the story (2 Sam. 3:1)? What does this reveal to you about God and his wisdom? Consider the timing of God's anointing David. What does this reveal about us as humans, our wisdom, pride and arrogance? How does this story point to Jesus?

Wednesday, Sept 9th – 2 Samuel 23:8-17 and 1 Chronicles 11:10-49

Today we are going to jump to 2 Samuel 23 and 1 Chronicles 11 for some information on those who fought with David. This matters because these are the men that will fight with and for David to secure his kingship over all Israel with God's help. Let's start by reading 2 Samuel 23:8-17. What interesting side notes are mentioned? Did you see all the victories? In each case, why did the Lord give victory? What does it say about David's character when he refuses the water from Bethlehem? Now let's turn to the Chronicles passage. Do you see any differences in how the Chronicler describes David's top 3 warriors? In some battles in Chronicles, David stays and fights, but these are not mentioned in 2 Samuel. But these 3 men were David's top three warriors and their stories demonstrate why! What did you find interesting or even amazing about these men? What does this reveal about God? What do these men teach us about humans? How does this point to Jesus? Think about the disciple structure. Who were Jesus' top three inner circle disciples?

Thursday, Sept. 10th – 2 Samuel 23:18-39 and 1 Chronicles 11:20-47

Today we meet the rest of David's warriors. First, we meet the top 30 after the 3 from yesterday. Read 2 Samuel 23:18-39. Who is the most famous? Who is the next most notorious warrior (vss. 20-23a)? Do his exploits warrant that notoriety? Could this be the reason why he is appointed as captain of David's personal guard? Now let's see what 1 Chronicles has to say about the 30. As you read verses 20-25 you see the same information, but with a bit more detail. Then we see the same list of men to round out the 30. It is important to read these names, because we will be seeing them in the future. They don't need to be memorized, but an awareness of who they are and the order they are ranked has some value in knowing who's who in future texts and battles. How has God met the need of David with these men? What does this reveal to us about humanity and our ability to be loyal and to do great things in the power of God? Again, how does this point to Jesus and surrounding himself with followers, even if they are not going to take up a sword, they will be just as powerful. What about you? You have that Spirit in you. How will God use you?

Friday, Sept. 11th – 2 Samuel 3:2-30

We are going to pick up now where we left off on Tuesday. Everyone had returned to their respective hometowns, but the battle over who would rule will heat up. Let us start by reading verses 2-5. How many wives does David have up to this point? We already know Ahinoam, Abigail and today we learned about Eglah. We are not certain if Maacah, Haggith and Abital were married to David or concubines. But so far David has 5 sons. Do you recognize any of those names? If not, you will before you are through. Now we return to the story of Abner who has been fighting against David as king. But things are about to change. What prompts the change (vss. 6-7)? What is Abner's response (vss. 8-11)? That is quite a change of heart. If Abner knew this, why had he been fighting against David? How does Abner put his plan into action and how does David respond (vss. 12-16)? Don't you feel kind of sorry for Palti? Poor guy. What is the next step in Abner's plan (vss. 17-21)? Looks like things are going well. But what happens next to mess it up (vss. 22-25)? Why is Joab so angry? Is it justified? What happens when anger goes unchecked (vss. 26-27)? Is this God-honoring? How does David handle the matter (vss. 28-30)? Does David handle this properly? Now God is not mentioned in this at all, but where do you see God working in this chapter? What does this reveal to you about God? What does this reveal to you about humanity and the importance of keeping our emotions in check? How does this point to Jesus? Consider the Pharisees hunting for a way to kill Jesus, or Judas' betrayal of Jesus – even though he knew Jesus was the Messiah! Where do you struggle with the need to get revenge, justify your anger, or let your emotions get the best of you? What can you learn from David? What can you learn from Jesus? What in your life might you need to let go of, so you can be free? Pray about that today, so you don't get caught up in sin.

Saturday, Sept. 12th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read 1 Chronicles 11:1-9.