

DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

As the people of God we should be committed to reading Scripture every day. Here are daily readings and questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and we would be honored to provide one. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number of the book. 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. 9th – Joshua 5:13-6:27

We are reading about the beginning of Israel's conquering of the Promised Land. As we start, whom does Joshua meet near Gilgal (vss. 13-15)? Now that is what I call some heavy-duty partners. Why do you think he appeared to Joshua? What benefit did his appearance have on Joshua, the one who would lead Israel into battles? Today we see the first battle. As you begin chapter 6, who will they conquer first (vss. 1-2)? How will this be accomplished? In other words, what is God's battle plan (vss. 3-5)? Now if you were going into battle and these were the instructions given to you, what would you think? Well, Joshua, after meeting the Commander of the Lord's Army, decided to do as God instructed. So how did it all work (vss. 6-14)? So far so good. Imagine for a moment being behind the wall in Jericho. What must they have been thinking? Perhaps fearful the first couple days? How must they have felt on the 6th day? We now are on the 7th Day and what are the complete instructions for this day (vss. 15-19)? So, what happens (vss. 20-21)? Whom does Joshua protect and what happens there (vss. 23, 25)? What happened to the rest of Jericho (vs. 24)? After the battle, what does Joshua declare and what does God do (vs. 26-27)? What did you learn about God from today's texts? What did you learn about yourself? Consider the faithfulness Israel showed to Rahab. It reflects God's faithfulness, does it not? Do you reflect God's faithfulness? How does this point to the victory we receive through Jesus? What strongholds in you has He helped you overcome?

Tuesday, Sept. 10th – Joshua 7:1-15

We ended yesterday on a very high note. Let's see if it continues today. Begin by reading verses 1-5. What happened? Why the fear? One man's sin affects the whole community, doesn't it? Not knowing what has gone on, what do Joshua and the leaders do? What is their question to God and their concern (vss. 6-9)? What is God's response to Joshua (vss. 10-12)? I think God means business and is quite literal about breaking covenant with Him. What is God's plan to remedy the situation of sinfulness (vss. 13-15)? Can you imagine what Achan must have thought when he heard this plan? What does this reveal to you about God and how seriously he takes our covenant with Him? What does this teach us about ourselves? Consider how your sin impacts the rest of the church. It is not just about you. It reflects on all of us. What does this teach us about thinking that "God didn't really mean it?" Now how does this point to God's grace through Jesus in our lives? Consider that Jesus took the punishment for our foolishness against God. Spend some time today repenting of your sinfulness and giving thanks to Jesus for taking your punishment on the cross.

Wednesday, Sept. 11th – Joshua 7:16-26

Today is going to be a day of judgment. Many who read this will not like what they read and make excuses as to why this did not happen or try to explain it away. Today we need to remember that these texts are the inspired Word of God that He uses to reveal Himself, His holiness, to us so that we may know Him. We start on the next day. What happens (vss. 16-18)? It happened just as the Lord said it would. When Achan is brought forward, how does Joshua address him (vs. 19)? What does Achan say? Is he telling the truth (vss. 20-23)? What had he taken? Why did he do that? What was the judgment that was carried out (vss. 24-26)? What part of you is screaming "not fair" right now? This is the time we need to remember God is Holy and our sins, our disobedience to Him, are an affront to His holiness. Israel as His chosen people are a reflection of the relationship that God is offering. It points to who God is and how God loves and blesses. But what does it say about God if he just let's Israel do what they want? As parents, we know what is best and don't allow our own children to behave that way. And remember this, they have only been in the Promised Land for less than a month and already there is someone being disobedient and sneaky about it. Like Achan could really hide his sin from God! What does this reveal to you about God and His holiness and righteousness? What does this reveal to you about yourself and your own sins? How are they an affront to God's holiness? And how does this all point to our need for Jesus and the Holy Spirit's work in our lives, to live a life that honors God? Where do you need to live more honestly and truthfully today?

Thursday, Sept. 12th – Joshua 8:1-29

Now that the sinfulness has once again been eradicated out of Israel, we move onto our next conquest. Read the entire text. What will be different this time (vs. 2)? What is the strategy for winning this battle (vss. 3-8)? How did the plan work? What did the King of Ai learn about God that day? What disturbs you about this text? Most find verses 24-28 difficult. Why do you think Ai needed to be completely destroyed? What do you think might have logically happened in the future, if they let some live after witnessing their loved one's death? And we must also remember that Ai had a long history of rejecting and rebelling against God. What does this reveal about God's patience? Can you rebel forever and be acceptable to God? How does this demonstrate that God's justice is just as strong as God's love? And how does love allow for such justice? How does this demonstrate God's holiness? What have you learned about God by what God reveals to you in this text? Does God act the way you want? Are you willing to concede that while you don't understand, God could see what you couldn't and acted out of love? What did you learn about God today? What did you learn about yourself? How does all this point to our need for Jesus?

Friday, Sept 13th – Deuteronomy 27-29:1 and Joshua 8:30-35

We start today by reading through our Deuteronomy chapters. Take time to go back and skim through to refresh your memory about Moses' instructions, curses and blessings. Now read Joshua 8:30-35. This is Israel completing what Moses had instructed. Joshua read all that Moses had written and completed all that God had commanded through Moses. Notice who is included in the ritual (vss. 34-35)? No one, not even children, are left out. For as Moses' had said these very words "are life." Go back now and reread the Deuteronomy text. This time don't just skim but read it. As you read, consider what these tell you about God. What does it say about you? How does it point to our need for Jesus, the Savior? Meditate on these words today. Let them sink in and become part of you. Pray thanking God for revealing himself to you this week, even if you didn't like it all.

Saturday, Sept. 14th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read Joshua 9:14-21.