

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, January 29th – Exodus 5

We begin today with the Moses and Aaron going to Pharaoh for the first time. How does this first exchange go for them (vss. 1-5)? Is everything Moses and Aaron say true in verse 3? Where do they twist the truth? Is God really planning on killing the Hebrews? How does Pharaoh's response line up with what God told Moses last week? Since Pharaoh seems aggravated by this encounter with Moses and Aaron, what does he do as an act of rebellion (vss. 6-14)? What was the response of the Israelites (vss. 15-16)? How does Pharaoh respond to their complaint (vss. 17-18)? Now please read verses 19-21. Whom do the Israelite foremen blame for the situation? How does Moses address God concerning all that is happening (vss. 22-23)? We remember that God had warned Moses that things were not going to go smoothly when it came to Pharaoh. We see today that God was right. Sometimes things don't get better until they have gotten worse. This does not mean that God is not acting, but rather is an indicator that the person in power is not going to give it up that easily. What does this reveal about God today? Is God truthful? Is God present? What does this reveal about humans/yourself? How do we react to suffering? The desire for instant relief is not a new thing. Anytime there is suffering, we want relief and now. But what other thing does this reveal about the human ability to rise to the top while under pressure? Think about Jesus' suffering. What do we learn about how to suffer in a way that glorifies God?

Tuesday, January 30th – Exodus 6

Today we will read God's response to Moses' cry of "Why?" How does God reassure Moses that the plan of salvation is still on track (vs. 1)? And why is God now acting on this salvation plan? What is the driving force (vss. 2-5)? Because of the suffering of his people, God chooses to now fulfill the covenant made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. He has chosen this specific time to demonstrate His power. Why is God going to free the Israelites this way (vss. 6-8)? It is not just for Pharaoh's sake, although that will be the case, but for Israel's sake. This is an indication that so much time has passed that the people are not sure about who this God is. But when they are set free from what seems like impossible circumstances that just keep getting worse, they will know about the love and power of their God. Their God Yahweh is not like Pharaoh. So Moses goes back to the people to relay what God has said. How do they respond (vs. 9)? What does God instruct Moses to do and what is Moses' answer (vss. 10-12)? God does not accept Moses' objection and complaint. Instead what does God do (vs. 13)? Next we have a genealogy. Read verses 14-25. As you read, which son's genealogies are listed? How many genealogies are missing? Which of Jacob's sons' has the longest genealogy (vss. 16-25)? What are the names of Moses' father and mother (vs. 20)? In verse 23, we see the genealogy for Aaron. Is Aaron older than Moses? How does this fact reflect back on Jacob and Esau or Ismael and Isaac? Verses 26-30 are a summary of our story thus far. What does this summary reveal about God? About humanity? About you?

Wednesday, January 31st – Exodus 7

The action begins today. God has sent Moses and Aaron to Pharaoh again to demand the release of His people. Read verses 1-5. Who is to do the talking to Pharaoh (vs. 2)? See if you notice a change in this as we move forward. How old are Moses and Aaron as they begin this adventure (vss. 6-7)? What does God say Pharaoh is going to need (vss. 8-9)? What happens when Moses and Aaron do the first miracle (vss. 10-13)? What was the difference between Aaron's staff and the Pharaoh's sorcerer's staff? What was the result? Now God had said this was going to be the case and so God instructs Moses on the second miracle (plague). What is going to happen next (vss. 14-18)? What is Aaron to do with the staff and what are the results (vss. 19-21)? What happens that makes Pharaoh ignore them (vs. 22)? But notice that not everyone is ignoring what is happening. How do we know this (vs. 24)? How long did this last (vs. 25)? What does this reveal about us and our hard hearts? Where do you carry doubt and indifference? What does this reveal about God and His power? Why is God's power not sorcery?

Thursday, February 1st – Exodus 8

Today we will continue looking at God's work through Moses and Aaron against Pharaoh. However, we will look at the patterns that develop in each of the experiences. We will start by reading verses 1-15. How is this experience with Pharaoh similar to yesterday's experience (vss. 1-7)? Beginning at verse 8 things change. What is different? How does Moses respond to this change of events (vss. 10-13)? How did Pharaoh and the Egyptians react (vss. 14-15)? Next is the plague of gnats. Read verses 16-19. What is the same about this plague? What is different (vss. 18-19)? What would it be like to live through this plague? Next is the plague of flies (vss. 20-32). What is the same about this plague? What is different (vss. 22, 25, 28)? We realize that all the plagues up to the flies were experienced by both the Israelites and the Egyptians. But starting with the flies, only the Egyptians will experience God's power. How does this prove to the Israelites that their God is doing this? As discussed on Sunday, this also demonstrates that Israel's God is over and more powerful than the Egyptian gods, as the sorcerers can no longer reproduce or control the plagues that are happening. Are you beginning to understand more deeply why God knew that this was the way to reveal himself to both the Israelites and the Egyptians? What does this reveal about us? How does this miracle-producing power point to Jesus' miracles? Take some time to pray and think through the implications of this demonstration of power that God choose. What is it about humans that would need this kind of proof?

Friday, February 2nd – Exodus 9

We continue with the plagues today. We start with the plague against the livestock of Egypt. As we look to the pattern of the plagues, what is the same pattern in this plague? What is different this time? Notice that Pharaoh doesn't ask Moses to fix it. He just refuses to let the people go. After all, the livestock are dead, so now they need the slaves even more! Next is the plague of boils. Read verses 8-12. What is the same about this plague? What is different this time (vs. 10b)? This is no longer inconvenience. This is personal now! The people themselves are affected. Pharaoh does not ask for relief, but refuses to let the Hebrews go. Also note who is now doing the actions. Aaron is there, but Moses is doing the talking and the dust-throwing. The last plague for this week is the plague of hail. Read verses 13-33. What is the same about this plague? Now let's look at some differences. In the verses, who is clearly missing from the action? In verse 19, God is telling Pharaoh to spread the word, so all animals and people can be sheltered from the hail. This demonstrates mercy. Again, in verses 22-23, who is absent from the story? What is different about Pharaoh's response this time (vs. 27)? Is he fooling Moses (vs. 30)? As we end this week, we see that Pharaoh's heart is still hardened and maybe even hardened harder against God. Consider how when we continue to sin, we make excuses for it time and time again. And then we have a scare or trouble arises and we repent, but once the crisis is over, we go back to our sin. How is this like Pharaoh's hardened heart? Where might you be more like Pharaoh than you thought? Pray and repent. Don't go back to your sin. Let God fill you with His Holy Spirit, so you can live free.

Saturday, February 3rd – Prepare for tomorrow by reading Exodus 7:1-5.