

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 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, Nov. 11th – Judges 1:1-18

We begin our journey through the Book of Judges this week. We start by setting up what will happen in the book and why. Let's start by reading verses 1-7. What did Israel do right (vs. 1)? Asking God first is always the right thing to do. Who joined Judah in the fight (vs. 3)? Do you remember why Judah would have asked Simeon to join them? During Joshua, we discussed the understanding that wars between kingdoms of this time were like pitting one god against another. How is this demonstrated in this story (vs. 7)? Where else did Judah and Simeon fight and the Lord conquer (vs. 8-10)? Beginning at verse 11, we have a re-telling of Caleb's story (vss. 11-15). This will matter in a few days. Who else now joins Judah and Simeon (vs. 16)? What remaining territory do Judah and Simeon conquer (vss. 17-18)? What does this reveal to you about God (vs. 2)? What does this reveal about humanity (vss. 1 and 3)? We really can be obedient, if we so desire. Consider today how this points to Jesus, when we speak of "conquering the grave." The Lord gave Israel the land and through Jesus we have salvation. What is expected of us regarding our receiving what the Lord gives? Ponder this as you go through your day. Are you living this out?

Tuesday, Nov. 12th – Judges 1:19-2:5

As we move forward, we begin to see where things start to break down regarding the remaining territory. Which tribes were successful in driving out the various Canaanite tribes (vs. 20)? Who failed to drive out the Canaanites (vss. 19, 21-36)? What usually happened with the Canaanites who were not driven out (vss. 28, 30, 33, and 35)? Now God promised to deliver but Israel seems to have run out of steam and decides it is easier to just live among the Canaanites. So why is this a problem (Judges 2:1-2)? Because of this disobedience, what will be the consequence (vss. 3)? How does Israel respond to God's judgment (vs. 4)? How often are we like Israel – willing to give up and just settle? And how often do we use God as the excuse for that decision? What does this text tell you about God and His desire to be faithful? Where do we allow compromises in our lives and the lives of others regarding Jesus' teachings and expectations? How do you think Jesus would respond regarding our compromises? Spend some time in prayer today, asking God where you might be settling rather than standing on His Word and promises. Repent and turn back to what God wants you to do.

Wednesday, Nov. 13th – Judges 2:6-23

We are about to end the second generation and begin the story of the third generation. To set up this transition, whose death is recorded (vss. 6-9)? Joshua's death marks the end of the second generation. As we move forward, why are we going to have problems from this point on? What does the text say the problem is (vs. 10)? This then leads to what kind of behavior (vss. 11-13)? What were the results of this behavior (vss. 14-15)? Remember Pastor Shirley talked about seeing the patterns in each of the stories contained in Judges. This is summarized in verses 16-19. What is the pattern? What are the results of this continual pattern (vss. 20-23)? How many generations from Egypt are we now? That was a pretty quick decline. What does this reveal to you about God? What does this say about us our humanity, our memories and our chasing idols? Why do we act like it doesn't matter? How does our behavior hurt the witness of who Christ is and His promise to save us, when we live like Israel? What idols are you chasing that you need to repent of and turn back to God? Where have you rebelled and need to return to the flock?

Thursday, Nov. 14th – Judges 3:1-11

As we enter chapter 3, we will begin the stories of the long line of judges God gives Israel. We start with a summary of why Israel is going to need judges. What is the reason for having judges (vss. 1-6)? Do you remember that both Moses' and Joshua's number one concern was Israel turning from God to worship other gods? Hedging their bets so to speak, as if God was not enough. This is the setting for all that follows. Now we meet our first judge. Who is he (vs. 9)? So why did Israel need a judge this time and with whom have they gotten entangled (vss. 7-8)? How long were they oppressed (vs. 8)? Othniel was married to Caleb's daughter. He becomes Israel's first judge. How long did Israel have peace after Othniel won the victory over King Cushan-rishathaim (vs. 11)? What does this reveal to you about God? How does this demonstrate God's anger and mercy equally? What does this reveal about us as humanity? How does this point to our need for Jesus? How does Jesus as judge both resemble the Old Testament judges and at the same time show us so much more? How is there both wrath and mercy in Jesus? How do both of these illustrate Christ's love?

Friday, Nov. 15th – Judges 3:12-31

Closing out this week, following yesterday's 40 years of peace, what happens again (vss. 12-14)? Who does God raise up as judge now (vs. 15a)? What did Israel send him to do (vs. 15b)? What happened instead (vss. 16-26)? This is the stuff from which movies are made! Upon returning home, what does Ehud do (vss. 27-29)? How long was there peace this time (vs. 30)? Sometimes brains before brawn are what is necessary. But faithfulness and trust in God is what delivers, as Ehud demonstrates. The third judge in the series receives simply one sentence. Who is he and for what is he known (vs. 31)? Did you see the pattern again in Ehud's story? What does this continue to reveal about God? Is God going to just "take our sin" and live with it? What does this reveal about us and our very short memories? What about our propensity to sin, even though we are God's people? How does this point to our need for Jesus, so we can be right before God, our just judge? Where in your life are you living more like Israel than Jesus?

Saturday, Nov. 16th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read Judges 4:14-16.