

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, June 13th – 1 Kings 17:1-7

This week we will read about the great prophet Elijah. The telling of Elijah's life starts with the beginning of his ministry as a prophet. We do not know much about him prior to these texts. Verse 1 gives us the only basic information we have on Elijah. What does it tell us? We learned where he was from and got a glimpse of why Ahab does not care for him. What was the first act that Elijah did as a prophet? What was God's next set of instructions for him (vss. 2-4)? How did that work out (vss. 5-6)? How does this adventure end (vs. 7)? So even Elijah is impacted by the command. What does this reveal about God? What does this reveal about us? How does this point to Jesus? Consider Jesus was sent to the wilderness by God as Elijah had been sent. Where might God be calling you to go and to rely solely on him?

Tuesday, June 14th – 1 Kings 17:8-24

We left off yesterday with Elijah in the wilderness and the drought in progress. The water in the brook had dried up. What instructions does God give Elijah (vss. 8-9)? What happens when Elijah obeys (vss. 10-11)? What is the widow's response to Elijah's request (vs. 12)? Do you remember what God said in verses 8-9? Does it sound like she got the instructions? What instructions does Elijah give her (vss. 13-14)? Would you have done what Elijah asked if you were in the widow's position? What does the widow do (vss. 15-16)? Sometimes we need to let go of what little we have so we can have a steady flow from God's hand. Even though the oil and flour continued, it does not mean problems won't arise. What happens next (vss. 17-18)? Pretty tragic. How does the prophet respond (vss. 19-21)? How did that work out (vss. 22-23)? What additional blessing came from this experience (vs. 24)? What does this story reveal to you about God? What does it say about us as humans? How are you like the widow? How are you different from the widow? How does this point to Jesus? Who did Jesus raise from the dead? Will you be raised by Jesus from the dead?

Wednesday, June 15th – 1 Kings 18:1-21

Today we shift to Elijah's interactions with Ahab. This is part of Ahab's story as well as Elijah's. God has new instructions for Elijah. When did these words come and what are the instructions from the Lord (vs.1)? So, Elijah heads off and the story transitions to Ahab and someone else. Who is this other person and what good have they done (vss. 2b-6)? Who does Obadiah meet and what is asked of him (vss. 7-8)? What is Obadiah's response to the request (vss. 9-14)? Do you think he has a good argument? How does Elijah respond to Obadiah's plea (vs. 15)? What does Obadiah do (vs. 16)? How does the meeting with Ahab and Elijah get started (vs. 17)? What is Elijah's response (vs. 18)? What does Elijah instruct the king to do (vs. 19)? When everyone was gathered, what demand of the king and the people does Elijah make (vss. 20-21)? What does this reveal to you about God? We have spoken often in the past about having one foot in the kingdom of God and one foot in the world. How does this analogy tie into Elijah's request of the people when it comes to God? Can you have a foot with God and a foot with Baal? What does this reveal about us as humans? Consider that reading this text is asking us to choose. Would you stand completely silent before God and be unable to choose? Would you be torn between the two? What does this reveal about Jesus? Consider his teaching on the "Kingdom of God." We cannot look back to the world but need to keep our eyes on Jesus and choose God's Kingdom and Holy Spirit living. What will be your choice today? Tomorrow and the next day? Pray asking the Holy Spirit to help you keep both feet in the Kingdom.

Thursday, June 16th – 1 Kings 18:22-46

We left off yesterday with the challenge to the people of Israel to choose who is God. The Lord God or Baal – and the people were silent! So, what does Elijah propose so the people will know who the true God is (vss. 22-24)? Once everything is prepared, the competition begins. Who goes first and what does the description of the scene look like (vss. 25-26)? At noon, what happens next (vss. 27-29)? What is Elijah's point in saying these things? Did you notice about what time this ends (vs. 29)? What happens next (vss. 30-35)? Ever try to light a fire with wet wood? Doesn't work, does it? What happens next (vss. 36-40)? What obvious difference is there between the prophet Elijah and the priests of Baal? Notice that the people must have made a choice between the two options as they seize and kill the Baal prophets. Now if you recall, this started with Elijah going back to see Ahab because the drought was going to be ended. This chapter ends with that event. Read verses 41-46. How many times did the servant of Elijah have to go look for the cloud? Sometimes when we pray there is a delay in the answer, not because God was not paying attention but because it is accomplished in God's perfect timing. Delays in answers also develop strength in faith. What does this reveal about God? What does this reveal about humanity? Consider how we, too, sometimes struggle to choose God over the world...we sometimes just fall silent. We put off making a decision and think we won't be held accountable for that! How does this point to Jesus? Ponder how the fire was started on wet wood. Ponder how the Temple curtain was torn from top to bottom upon Jesus' death. These two miracles demonstrate the power of God at a time of great sacrifice.

Friday, June 17th – 1 Kings 19:1-21

We will bring Elijah's story to a close today. Elijah has seen God prove He was God to all the people, that Baal is not a real god. Then Elijah prayed and the rain returned in the power of God. We need to remember this backdrop as we read chapter 19. When Ahab gets home, what does he tell his wife Jezebel and what is her reaction (vss. 1-2)? How does Elijah respond to that news (vss. 3-4)? Did you notice that even though Elijah was a participant in some of God's grandest displays of power – defeating and killing Baal's priests – he was afraid of a threat made by Jezebel. In fact, what does Elijah ask to happen in verse 4? How does God respond to Elijah's great escape (vss. 5-9a)? Why do you think God responds this way? Consider all the options God had to deal with Elijah: anger, rebuke, send him back, and a host of others. Yet God chose to care for him and not press the issue. Dying was not an option, but rest, food, and a break was the option chosen. But as with any good parent, the break does not last forever. What does God do next and how does Elijah respond (9b-10)? See the honesty in his response. Now read how God addresses Elijah (vss. 11-13)? Notice Elijah's answer in verse 14. At this point God gives Elijah his marching orders. What are they (vss. 15-18)? Elijah thought he was the only faithful one left in Israel, but how many more were there (vs. 18)? As Elijah moves out in obedience, who is the first person he addresses and what is the response (vss. 19-21)? Did you observe Elisha's response? What does this chapter reveal to you about God? What does it reveal to you about yourself (humanity)? Consider that although Elijah saw all that God did, he still experience fear and wanted to give up. How does this point to Jesus? Read this text and see if it reminds you of anything you read today. Matthew 4:18-20. "And immediately they left their nets and followed him."

Saturday, June 18th – In preparation for tomorrow's worship, please read 1 Kings 20.