

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 22nd – 1 Samuel 18

We pick up our story today on the heels of David's success over Goliath. Read verses 1-4. Whom did David meet and what was the reaction? What did Saul do regarding David (vs 2)? There has been much debate in recent years about the meaning of verses 3-4. The Hebrew word for love could mean love like in a family and even sexual love. It could mean beloved/dear friend or lovers. Many have used this word to say that Jonathan and David were lovers, gay or at least bi-sexual. However, this interpretation is only about 20 -25 years old. Most see this love as brotherly and with what is offered to David in verse 4 symbolizes Jonathan's giving up the throne to David. We will see in 1 Samuel 20 and 23 that Jonathan seems to be aware of God's anointing on David. There is a relationship to the second great commandment though isn't there – "Love your neighbor as yourself." Jonathan seems to have that right. But not everything is wonderful. Read verses 5-16. What problems are arising? With David's popularity still on the rise, Saul has decided he needs to do something. What is Saul's plan and what drives him to do this plan (vss. 17-19)? What was David's response to the plan? Since the first attempt did not work what does Saul do next (vss. 20-25)? Does David accept the offer (vss. 26-27a)? How did it work out (vss. 27b-29)? How does this section end? What is the cause of David's success (vs. 30)? What does this reveal to you about God? How about humans, especially those who may rule? How does this text foreshadow some of Jesus' teachings and examples?

Tuesday, June 23rd – 1 Samuel 19

Things are not going well for David thus far. What has happened now (vs. 1)? How does Jonathan try to diffuse the situation (vss. 2-5)? Did it work (vss. 6-7)? What happens next (vss. 8-11)? This time David's wife, Michal, springs into action. What is the plan and how does the execution of it work (vss. 12-17)? Who does David run to and what happens (vs. 18)? What is Saul's plan and what happens (vss. 19-24)? What does this reveal to you about God and the power of God's Spirit? What does this reveal to you about us mere mortals? Jesus taught about worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth. How does this text present an example of that? After reading what God is capable of and how humans respond, pause and notice how you feel about all of this. Are you fearful? Humbled? Do you have a new sense of reverent awe at the majesty and power of God? Spend some time in prayer, asking God to help you worship today in Spirit (His Spirit) and truth!

Wednesday, June 24th – Psalm 59

Today we will jump to the Psalms. This Psalm is written by David during what was happening in chapter 19. It is only 17 verses long so read straight through it. What strikes you about David's pleas in this Psalm? Rather than revenge (killing them off), what does David ask of God (vs. 11-12)? How did God answer David's Psalm request yesterday? Did God smite Saul's soldier's off the face of the earth? How does this Psalm end (vs. 13)? Why does David ask God to do this (vs 13b)? What does this Psalm tell us about David's mood and feelings? What does this reveal to you about God in light of chapter 19 in 1 Samuel? Does God listen and answer our laments? What about us, what does this Psalm reveal about us and our interactions with God? How does this point to Jesus and his lamenting? What might you need to lament to God for and to wait on God to work out? Don't be surprised if it is not what you wanted exactly. But God does hear the cries, the laments of His people and in His time responds. Finally, what does this say about our lives, even though we have a heart for God? Is every life comfortable and filled with contentment?

Thursday, June 25th – 1 Samuel 20:1-17

Today we return to Samuel and continue the story of David. David had been with Samuel in Naioth, but Saul had sent troops to capture and kill David. So how does today begin and where does David go (vs. 1)? How does Jonathan respond to David's accusations and what becomes of the plan (vss. 2-8)? As we read further, we see the plan is tweaked a bit. What is the final plan (vss. 9-17)? Do you see the commitment as brothers between David and Jonathan? What favor does Jonathan ask of David (vss. 14-15)? What is Jonathan's declaration about David in verse 16? If Jonathan thought he was going to be king after his father, would he have said these things? The Bible never tells us when Jonathan realized that David was the next anointed king by God, but it is becoming more obvious now. What revelations have you had about God and His protection? About humanity and how our relationships to each other are? How does this point to Jesus? Consider those who wanted to kill him and those who would die for him. How is David a foreshadow of Jesus in this text? How is Jesus the fulness of this experience?

Friday, June 26th – 1 Samuel 20:18-42

We pick up today with what Jonathan will do and the signs he will offer David based on the results of his inquiry. What will be the signs (vss. 18-23)? So, let's read how this goes down. Read verses 24-42. What strikes your heart about the events here? Do you feel the shame and heartbreak of Jonathan at his father's rage and determination to kill David, his friend and brother? Do you feel the rage and hate in Saul? How about David sitting and waiting for the answer from Jonathan, only to find out he was right and a marked man? What does this reveal to you about God and his protection? What does this reveal to you about humanity and what we are capable of when hate and jealousy build up in us? How does this point to what Jesus experienced by those who were jealous of his increasing influence and the power he held? When have you experienced any of this or all of this? Spend some time in prayer asking God to forgive you when you have behaved like Saul? Ask for protection from getting jealous and a heart with hate in it. Pray asking God to protect you from others and protect your heart from becoming hard against them. Then thank God for the good friends you have in Christ. Those friendships that resemble Jonathan's and David's.

Saturday, June 27th – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read 1 Chronicles 12:8.