

Day One – David Chosen

Today's reading: Page 145 through break on page 150

This reading covers: 1 Samuel 16-17

Summary: God looks into the heart and chooses David as the future king.

Consider this:

God sees directly into our hearts and can judge our motives.

Think of someone with whom you have a hard time. Perhaps you are angry at this person or consider them to be an adversary at work or in the family. The best way to change our hearts toward another is to honestly and sincerely pray for that person. Not about that person, but for that person.

Make sure your prayer has nothing to do with changing the one with whom you struggle. In fact, it is a good thing to ask God to change you. Sometimes, it really is about us. God can see straight through to our hearts.

For further reading: Psalm 139

Prayer:

Father today I want to pray for _____. I ask that you would bring great blessing into their life today. I pray for your peace upon them. I pray for a rich anointing for the job that they have to do.

Rain grace down upon _____. Help me, Lord, to learn all I need to learn. Teach me how to see others through your eyes. Change my heart. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day Two – God is My Strength

Today's reading: Break on page 150 through break on page 156

This reading covers: 1 Samuel 18, 19, 24, 31; 2 Samuel 22; Psalm 59

Summary: David expresses his faith that God will protect him from Saul.

Consider this:

David was a hero to the people, but Saul's jealousy made David an enemy of the king. His men encouraged him to do away with Saul when he had the chance. David insisted the plan was God's, and God would carry it out.

Have you ever gone ahead and taken justice into your own hands, rather than waiting for natural consequences to move the circumstances along? Do you have an attitude of right/wrong that you feel justifies your stand on certain things? Can you learn a lesson from David here? How can you apply it today?

For further reading: Psalm 59

Prayer:

Father, help me to know when to act and when to wait. I want you to be in control, but sometimes I move ahead. Keep me from moving forward with things that need time. Keep me from getting ahead of you, Lord. Help me to have the faith I need that you will take care of me and the circumstances that surround me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Day Three – David Honors God

Today's reading: Break on page 156 through end of chapter

This reading covers: 2 Samuel 6 and 1 Chronicles 17

Summary:

David cares for the ark. God promises a son will succeed him.

David brought the ark back to safety in Jerusalem and had plans to build a house for the Lord; a resting place for the ark. God intervenes through the prophet Nathan, telling David his job is not to build a place for the ark.

That task will fall to David's son.

Consider this:

Timing is everything with God, and yet time is nothing to God. God's promise to David reveals what God will do. It also reveals what David should not do. How is your to-do list? What is God's priority? How does it compare with your priority? Spend some time on an important issue in your life, journaling the need and what you are hearing from God regarding the timing. Also consider whose responsibility it is to get the job done. Is the job really yours? Or is it God's?

For further reading: Esther 4:9-17; 2 Peter 3:8; Proverbs 19:21

Prayer:

Father, help me to keep my priorities in perspective. Help me to spend my time on the things that really matter to you. I want to give you everything on my list or in my head today, so I may work for you in accomplishing your will in your time. In this way, I honor you. In Jesus' name, Amen.