

FAITH BIBLE READING

May 27-June 2, 2019

At Faith Baptist Fellowship, we *Love God's Word and Prayer* (Ephesians 6:17-18)! Take the 'sword of the Spirit' (God's Word) and persevere in prayer! In this year, ask God each day to speak directly to you from the Scripture portions you read. Select a quiet place and consistent time to read and pray.

Our plan for 2019 will be similar to previous years. Monday-Saturday we will focus on one main devotional passage; the additional readings will keep you on track to finish the entire Bible in one year. On Sunday, we will have a passage from the upcoming Sunday sermon along with questions for Faith Group discussion.

We suggest having a notebook and pen for answering questions and recording your thoughts/insights. Bring this notebook with you to Faith Group for discussions and prayer times.

Abbreviations: **TAI** – Think About It | **PP** – Prayer Points

MONDAY, MAY 27

Read 2 Samuel 16-17

TAI: Read Psalm 3. The superscription says "when he fled from Absalom his son." How did God help David during this time? Note:

Counsel:

Provision:

Communication:

In what ways did the Lord thwart the intentions of Absalom? As you ponder these things, reflect also on what the book of Proverbs says about the wicked and their ways.

PP: First read again Psalm 3, placing yourself in David's sandals as he fled from his son. Then pray through Psalm 3 for yourself. Do you have "foes" as David did? Whatever your situation, surely you also can say "You, O Lord, are a shield about me; my glory, and the lifter of my head." Cry aloud to the Lord, and he will answer you!

Ask the Father for his wise counsel through his word. Thank him for all his provision in your life. Thank him also for communicating with you through the Scriptures.

On this Memorial Day, thank God for loved ones who served.

Additional readings: Mark 15:1-15; Galatians 4:1-20; Psalm 114

TUESDAY, MAY 28

Read 2 Samuel 18-19

TAI: Warren Wiersbe: “The life you live is the monument you build, and ultimately the truth will come out.” In that sense, what monument did Absalom build? What monument did David build? *Think of your own life: what ‘monument’ are you building?* David was filled with sorrow over Absalom; how did Joab confront the king? David offered forgiveness where he could have been harsh. What can we learn from his actions? Always remember: God has forgiven us!

PP: Pray a prayer of thanksgiving to God for all his grace and love to you. We are all rebels; only through Jesus Christ and the cross do we have forgiveness and new life. Express to God your desire to live a life pleasing to him, a life of trust, joy, hope, and endurance by his grace and for his glory, leaving a legacy of faith and faithfulness to all who follow behind you. Ask God to help you forgive others.

Additional readings: Mark 15:16-32; Galatians 4:21-31; Psalm 115

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

Read 2 Samuel 20-21

TAI: Who was Sheba and what kind of man was he? Isn't it curious that Israel did not learn from the Absalom fiasco and now turned again away from David? What opportunity did Amasa forsake? How did Joab take advantage of Amasa's error? Who settled the issue between Sheba and his rebels and David's army? *The actions of a wise woman saved countless lives and brought peace instead of rebellion. What wise action does God want you to take today?* It came time for David to end his warrior days. Age catches up with us all.

PP: “Heavenly Father, let me not pursue rebellion nor follow a rebel leader, but rather follow you all of my days and walk uprightly. When others pursue folly let me speak a word of wisdom that aligns with your word. When you tell me to do something, help me obey and not delay. Let me invest myself in my calling each and every day but also know when it's best to stand aside and let others lead.”

Pray for the Slawsons as they join us this weekend at FBF.

Additional Readings: Mark 15:33-41; Galatians 5:1-12; Psalm 116

THURSDAY, MAY 30

Read 2 Samuel 22

TAI: David's song of deliverance comes after the account of the Philistine wars in chapter 21 and his list of heroes in chapter 23. Psalm 18 contains almost identical wording to this passage. David was a warrior so notice the words he uses to describe God's attributes and His actions. They may seem foreign to most of us unless you have served in the military. Have you ever put into words the story of God's faithfulness and grace to you?

PP: Perhaps you are good at poetry. Take a look back over your life and note times where God has been a rock or fortress to you. When has He clearly spoken to you through His word, directed your steps or answered a particularly heartfelt prayer? Describe God's greatness in your own personal and meaningful words. Read through Psalm 18 for additional thoughts and insights.

Additional Readings: Mark 15:42-47; Galatians 5:13-26; Psalm 117

FRIDAY, MAY 31

Read 2 Samuel 23

TAI: This text vividly describes David's "mighty men." What are the accomplishments that stand out to you? To whom does the writer give the credit for their exploits? Consider all the Scriptures: who are the mighty men and women of Faith that you admire? Then think of your own life: who are the people of great faith in Christ that have modeled walking by faith for you? What about them has impressed you?

PP: Thank God for models of great faith in Christ. Thank Him for your own "mighty men and women of valor" who have deeply impacted your own walk of faith in Christ. Perhaps after praying to thank God for them, send a note to someone you admire who is still living, telling them of your appreciation. They might even be on Facebook! Pray that God would bring admirable men and women of faith to model a Christ-centered life for your children, grandchildren and the young people of our church. Ask God to help you to be one of those people.

Additional Readings: Mark 16; Galatians 6; Psalm 118

SATURDAY, JUNE 1

Read 2 Samuel 24

TAI: For reasons that are not clear, God was angry with Israel and He led David to call for a census. David's reasons for commanding a census are not clear either; but some scholars think that since the census included only military men, David was interested in determining his military strength. This may imply that he was boasting in human strength. Whatever the reason, God sent judgment among the people. What was it and how was it averted? Ponder David's statement in 24:24. How might it relate to us today?

PP: Are there areas in your own life where you are tempted to rely on your own strengths and abilities? Ask God to search your heart and reveal any areas to you that you can confess and repent of. David offered sacrifices and interceded for the people and God heard and answered. Praise God that He sent Jesus to be our sacrifice, as well as the one who now intercedes for us. Praise God that He hears and answers!

Additional Readings: None

SUNDAY, JUNE 2

Read Mark 13:14-37

TAI & PP: Some thoughts from last Sunday are repeated again: don't be led astray; be on your guard; endure by faith; God will triumph when Jesus comes again! Do you perceive that Jesus may be coming again soon? What points in that direction? How should we be ready? Who knows exactly when that will happen?

Pray for grace to endure hardship, walk by faith, trust God completely, and live in expectant HOPE!