

# Read Through The Bible

Week 31 – Sept. 1-7, 2024

1 Chronicles 7-21; Romans 13-16; 1 Corinthians 1:1-2:5; Palms 89-91, Proverbs 19

## Icebreaker

- Who was the most obedient child in your family or, if you are a single child, how obedient were you?
- Who is the most thankful person you know?
- Who is the most contentious person you know?
- How quickly do you get angry?

## Step 1 - GET REAL

What are you thankful for from the past week?

What struggles did you face?

What can you share from your personal Bible reading this week?

Where did you see God in your daily life?

## Step 2: GET FED

### 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles

**1st Chronicles 9:1-4** *1 So all Israel was recorded in genealogies, and these are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel. And Judah was taken into exile in Babylon because of their breach of faith. 2 Now the first to dwell again in their possessions in their cities were Israel, the priests, the Levites, and the temple servants. 3 And some of the people of Judah, Benjamin, Ephraim, and Manasseh lived in Jerusalem:*

The genealogies were important to the Israelites, particularly the Levites who were to be the priests. These first chapters present those records. Now the people are returning after exile. The first to return were the priests the Levites, and the temple servants. Why would these be the first to return? How important was this to Israel?

**1st Chronicles 10:13-14** *13 So Saul died for his breach of faith. He broke faith with the LORD in that he did not keep the command of the LORD, and also consulted a medium, seeking guidance. 14 He did not seek guidance from the LORD. Therefore the LORD put him to death and turned the kingdom over to David the son of Jesse.*

What was the reason Saul died? What were Saul's two sins? Are we keeping God's commands? Where do we seek guidance?

**1 Chronicles 11:9** And David became greater and greater, **for the LORD of hosts was with him.**

Why did David become great? Why would the Lord be with David as opposed to Saul? How can we insure the Lord is with us?

**1st Chronicles 12:1, 8, 16, 18, 19, 22, 1** Now these are the men **who came to David** at Ziklag

**8** From the Gadites there **went over to David** at the stronghold in the wilderness mighty and experienced warriors, expert with shield and spear,

**16** And some of the men of Benjamin and Judah **came to the stronghold to David.**

**18** Then the Spirit clothed Amasai, chief of the thirty, and he said, "**We are yours, O David, and with you, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, and peace to your helpers! For your God helps you.**"

**19** Some of the men of Manasseh deserted to David when he came with the Philistines for the battle against Saul.

**22** For **from day to day men came to David to help him, until there was a great army, like an army of God.**

**38** All these, men of war, arrayed in battle order, **came to Hebron with a whole heart to make David king** over all Israel. Likewise, all the rest of Israel **were of a single mind** to make David king.

Why were these men coming to David? Amasai gives the answer in vs 22. How important is it for us to follow God like David? Will the world recognize when we follow God? All of these were united and wholeheartedly came (vs 38). How important is unity and wholehearted devotion? How united in purpose are we today? What is our level of devotion?

*1st Chronicles 13:1-4* **1** David consulted with the commanders of thousands and of hundreds, with every leader. **2** And David said to all the assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you and from the LORD our God, **let us send abroad to our brothers who remain in all the lands of Israel, as well as to the priests and Levites in the cities that have pasturelands, that they may be gathered to us.** **3** Then let us bring again the ark of our God to us, for we did not seek it<sup>L</sup> in the days of Saul." **4** All the assembly agreed to do so, for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people.

One of the first things David did as king was to bring the nation back together. Second he wanted to bring the ark of God back to the capital so they could seek God's will. How important is it to seek God's will? How are we doing in this respect?

*1st Chronicles 14:10-11* **10** And David inquired of God, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand?" And **the LORD said to him, "Go up, and I will give them into your hand."** **11** And he went up to Baal-perazim, and David struck them down there.

*1st Chronicles 14:14-16* **14** And when David again inquired of God, **God said to him, "You shall not go up after them; go around and come against them opposite the balsam trees..."** **16** And David did as God commanded him, and they struck down the Philistine army from Gibeon to Gezer.

David inquired of God. David did as God commanded. We will see this pattern repeated many times in Chronicles. How are we about inquiring of God to determine His will for us? Consequently, how are we at doing what God tells us? David was a man after God's heart. These two instances are examples of that. Whose heart are we seeking?

*1st Chronicles 15:11-15* **11** Then David summoned the priests Zadok and Abiathar, and the Levites Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel, and Amminadab, **12** and said to them, "You are the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites. **Consecrate yourselves, you and your brothers, so that you may bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel, to the place that I have prepared for it.** **13** Because you did not carry it the first time, **the LORD our God broke out against us, because we did not seek him according to the rule."** **14** So the priests and the Levites consecrated themselves to bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel. **15** And **the Levites carried the ark of God on their shoulders with the poles, as Moses had commanded according to the word of the LORD.**

The first time David attempted to bring the Ark of the Lord to Jerusalem, Uzzah was killed trying to steady the ark. David realized his mistake in not following the command of God that only the Levites should carry the ark. This time the Levites carried the ark and successfully brought it to its designated place. What lesson should this teach us?

**1st Chronicles 16:8-36** is the Song of Thanks by David sung when the Ark of God was installed in its rightful location. What are the primary concepts David makes in this song? Thanks, Praise, Remembrance, Declare His works among the nations, Worship, Ask for salvation. How often do we do these? How often should we do these?

*1st Chronicles 18:14* So David reigned over all Israel, and **he administered justice and equity to all his people.** How refreshing would it be to see a ruler that ruled fairly and justly? How do rulers today match up to this goal?

*1st Chronicles 21:1, 7, 1* Then **Satan stood against Israel and incited David to number Israel...** **7** But God was displeased with this thing, and he struck Israel....**16** And David lifted his eyes and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven, and in his hand a drawn sword stretched out over Jerusalem. Then David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell upon their faces. **17** And David said to God, "Was it not I who gave command to number the people? It is I who have sinned and done great evil. But these sheep, what have they

*done? Please let your hand, O LORD my God, be against me and against my father's house. But do not let the plague be on your people."*

Why did David number Israel again? What type of inciting does Satan do today? How successful is he? What can we do to prevent falling to Satan's lies? What reasoning did David use to try to prevent the destruction of the people of Israel? Are we willing to admit our errors and accept God's punishment? Do our actions against God result in punishment for others today? Are we willing to intercede for others for our actions?

## **Romans**

**Romans 13:1-3** *1 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. **Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval***

How do we view governing authorities today? How are we supposed to view them? Why are we to do good?

**Romans 13:8-10** *8 Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9 For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 10 **Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.***

How well are we keeping this command? What does it mean to "love your neighbor as yourself"?

**Romans 14** regards passing judgement on others and causing others to stumble. What are the primary concepts Paul is trying to get across in this chapter? Are we pursuing things that make for peace and mutual upbringing?

**Romans 15:1-2** *1 We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. 2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.*

How are you doing at building up your neighbor? How hard is it to not please ourselves? What are some ways we can improve in this area?

**Romans 15:13** *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.*

How is your hope, abounding or lacking? Why is hope important? What can you do to increase hope in others?

**Romans 16:17** *I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them.*

What is required of us to watch for those creating obstacles "contrary to the doctrine you have been taught"?

How well do you think you can do this?

## **1st Corinthians**

**1st Corinthians 1:10-11** *10 I appeal to you, brothers,<sup>L</sup> by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that **all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.** 11 For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers.*

What does it mean to be united in the same mind and judgement? How well is the church doing in this respect today? Do you have quarrels with anyone today? What is the source of quarrels? How can you settle any quarrels you have? How can you prevent quarrels?

**1st Corinthians 1:27-31** *27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 so that no human being<sup>4</sup> might boast in the presence of God. 30 And because of him<sup>5</sup> you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."*

In what are we boasting? How many of the world boast in themselves? Why should we not boast in ourselves? How can we be sure not to boast in ourselves?

**1st Corinthians 2:1-5** *1 And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony<sup>2</sup> of God with lofty speech or wisdom. 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 3 And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, 4 and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.*

In who/what does your faith rest? Why is it important our faith rests in God? How can we insure it rests in God?

### **Psalms**

**Psalm 90:1-2** *1 Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.*

How important is the concept that God is eternal? Why is this a crucial concept for us to grasp? How important is it that we understand God formed the earth? Why?

**Psalm 91:9-12** *9 Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge— 10 no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. 11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. 12 On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.*

What is required for the guarding of the Lord? What does it mean to make the Lord our dwelling place?

### **Proverbs**

**Proverb 18:22** *He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the LORD.*

Is this the prevailing attitude of the world today? Why would being married help us obtain favor from the Lord? How important is finding a good wife/husband?

**Proverb 19:2** *Desire without knowledge is not good, and whoever makes haste with his feet misses his way.*

What credence is given to desire by the world? What credence is given to knowledge in comparison? How difficult is it to keep from fulfilling our desire?

**Proverb 19:11** *Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.*

How much sense do you have? How quickly do we get angry? How often do you overlook an offense against you? How easy is that to do?

### **Step 3: GET ACTIVE**

- Reread David's Song of Thanks in 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles 16:8-36. Write your own song of thanks to God.
- Give 3 examples of how you can love your neighbor as yourself. Give 3 examples of not loving your neighbor as yourself.
- List 5 ways we can make the Lord our dwelling place.
- List 3 ways we can be slow to anger.

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