

Read Through The Bible

Week 5 – Feb. 25-March 2, 2024

Job 11-34, Matthew 20-23, Palms 17:6-18:36; Proverbs 3:21-35

Icebreaker

What are five words of praise you can use toward God?

Who is the wisest person you have ever known?

Who is the most righteous person you have ever known?

What do you think is the most comforting action you can do for someone?

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

Scripture

Job

Job 11:7-9 (ESV) ⁷ “Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty? ⁸ It is higher than heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know? ⁹ Its measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea.

Job 14:1-2, 10 (ESV) ¹ “Man who is born of a woman is few of days and full of trouble. ² He comes out like a flower and withers; he flees like a shadow and continues not...¹⁰ But a man dies and is laid low; man breathes his last, and where is he?

Job 16:2 (ESV) ² “I have heard many such things; miserable comforters are you all.

Job 26:7-14 (ESV) ⁷ He stretches out the north over the void and hangs the earth on nothing. ⁸ He binds up the waters in his thick clouds, and the cloud is not split open under them. ⁹ He covers the face of the full moon and spreads over it his cloud. ¹⁰ He has inscribed a circle on the face of the waters at the boundary between light and darkness. ¹¹ The pillars of heaven tremble and are astounded at his rebuke. ¹² By his power he stilled the sea; by his understanding he shattered Rahab. ¹³ By his wind the heavens were made fair; his hand pierced the fleeing serpent. ¹⁴ **Behold, these are but the outskirts of his ways, and how small a whisper do we hear of him! But the thunder of his power who can understand?”**

Job 27:1-6 (ESV) ¹ And Job again took up his discourse, and said: ² “As God lives, who has taken away my right, and the Almighty, who has made my soul bitter, ³ **as long as my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils, ⁴ my lips will not speak falsehood, and my tongue will not utter deceit.** ⁵ Far be it from me to say that you are right; **till I die I will not put away my integrity from me.** ⁶ **I hold fast my righteousness and will not let it go; my heart does not reproach me for any of my days.**

Job 28:20-28 (ESV) ²⁰ “**From where, then, does wisdom come? And where is the place of understanding?** ²¹ It is hidden from the eyes of all living and concealed from the birds of the air. ²² Abaddon and Death say, ‘We have heard a rumor of it with our ears.’ ²³ “**God understands the way to it, and he knows its place.** ²⁴ **For he looks to the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens.** ²⁵ When he gave to the wind its weight and apportioned the waters by measure, ²⁶ when he made a decree for the rain and a way for the lightning of the thunder, ²⁷ then he saw it and declared it; he established it, and searched it out. ²⁸ **And he said to man, ‘Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to turn away from evil is understanding.’”**

Job 29:11-16 (ESV) ¹¹ When the ear heard, it called me blessed, and when the eye saw, it approved, ¹² because **I delivered the poor who cried for help, and the fatherless who had none to help him.** ¹³ The blessing of him who was about to perish came upon me, and **I caused the widow’s heart to sing for joy.** ¹⁴ **I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my justice was like a robe and a turban.** ¹⁵ **I was eyes to the blind and feet to the lame.** ¹⁶ **I was a father to the needy, and I searched out the cause of him whom I did not know.**

Matthew

Matthew 20:14-16 (ESV) ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity? ¹⁶ **So the last will be first, and the first last.**”

Matthew 20:24-28 (ESV) ²⁴ And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. ²⁵ But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ²⁶ It shall not be so among you. But **whoever would be great among you must be your servant,** ²⁷ and **whoever would be first among you must be your slave,** ²⁸ even as **the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.**”

Matthew 21:9 (ESV) ⁹ And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “**Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!**”

Matthew 21:12-13 (ESV) ¹² And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. ¹³ He said to them, “It is written, ‘**My house shall be called a house of prayer,**’ but you make it a den of robbers.”

Matthew 22:34-40 (ESV) ³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵ And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” ³⁷ And he said to him, “**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.** ³⁸ **This is the great and first commandment.** ³⁹ **And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.** ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Matthew 23:11-12 (ESV) ¹¹ **The greatest among you shall be your servant.** ¹² Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Matthew 23:37 (ESV) ³⁷ “**O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!**”

Psalms

Psalms 17:8-9 (ESV) ⁸ **Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings,** ⁹ from the wicked who do me violence, my deadly enemies who surround me.

Psalms 18:1-3 (ESV) ¹ **I love you, O LORD, my strength.** ² The LORD is **my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.** ³ **I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.**

Proverbs

Proverbs 3:19-26 (ESV) ¹⁹ The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens; ²⁰ by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the dew. ²¹ My son, **do not lose sight of these— keep sound wisdom and discretion,** ²² and **they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck.** ²³ **Then you will walk on your way securely, and your foot will not stumble.** ²⁴ **If you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.** ²⁵ **Do not be afraid of sudden terror or of the ruin of the wicked, when it comes,** ²⁶ for **the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught.**

Questions

Job

Job 11:7-9 How is God’s wisdom described? Why is it important for us to know God’s wisdom? What emotion/attitude/understanding should this knowledge invoke in us?

Job 14:1-2, 10 How is man’s life described? If man’s life is short, what should we do?

Job 16:2 What kind of friends are we?

Job 26:7-14 Job declares God’s majesty. How important is it for us to understand how great and powerful God is?

Job 27:1-6 Have we made declarations of right doing as Job did (“*I hold fast my righteousness and will not let it go*”)? How long will he do these things? Can we make a declaration like this even when we are hurting like Job?

Job 28:20-28 What is wisdom? What is understanding? From where do wisdom and understanding come?

Job 29:11-16 How did Job display righteousness? How are we doing in this area?

Matthew

Matt 20:1-16 The parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard. Have you contracted to work for the Lord? Are you concerned with what others are being paid rather than what you are receiving? Do you trust God to give you what you are right? What does it mean “So the last will be first, and the first last.”

Matt 20:24-28 Are we acting like a servant like Christ? Why did Christ come to earth? Have we taken advantage of that ransom?

Matt 21:9 Hosanna is Hebrew for “Save us, we pray.” Do we shout this to God?

Matt 21:12-13 How are we treating God’s house? Have we made it a den of robbers?

Matt 22:34-40 How can we implement the two greatest commands?

Matt 23:11-12 This is the third time Christ has exhorted them to be “a servant” or “the first shall be last and the last first.” Are we catching the pattern? How am I acting as a servant?

Matt 23 This chapter cites the woes of the Pharisees. Christ calls them hypocrites multiple times. Why did Christ call them hypocrites? What would it take for us to be hypocrites like the Pharisees today?

Matt 23:37 Christ longs to gather us under His wings. Are we willing?

Psalms

Psalms 17:8 This verse echoes the idea of **Matt 23:37** God sheltering us under His wings. Is this a prayer of ours?

Psalms 18:1-3 How many ways is God described in this passage? What is the gist of the descriptions? What two actions does David say he performs? Are we doing these two things in our life? How is God described in verse three? What does it mean to praise God? How often do we praise God?

Proverbs

Prov 3:19-26 What are the benefits of wisdom? Do you have these in your life?

Step 3: GET ACTIVE

Job’s friends claimed he had sinned and God was punishing him. Job maintained his innocence throughout. We know we cannot be perfect. Review your life. Are you at the point in your life where you can feel like you are living for God and only falling occasionally?

Read **Job 26:7-14**. Meditate on God’s majesty. How does God’s majesty affect your life?

Read **Job 31** and identify the types of sins Job declares he has not participated in. Search your life for those sins. Make a plan to eradicate these from your life.

Review your actions today. How do they demonstrate the two greatest commands?

Make a list of actions that will show God is first in our lives.

Make a list of actions that will show we love our neighbors as ourselves.

Make a plan to praise God for one hour this week. Do not put in requests to Him during this time.