

WEEK 1 April 20-26





Using the Bible Reading Plan

The mark of a growing disciple is the discipline to self-feed. During this unprecedented time, the Lord is redirecting His people to pause and rediscover Him and His ways afresh. This is the heart behind our Bible Reading Plan - that we, as a church will mature in loving Him and allowing His Spirit to move us in obeying His Word in our lives.

The Bible Reading Plan comprises a daily passage with reflection questions to guide you in meditation. You can also journal what God's Spirit is prompting you to do in applying the Word. We pray that as you carve out unhurried time to encounter God, you will revitalise your spiritual life and encourage others to experience likewise!



In order to fully utilise the features within this Reading Plan, open this document using Adobe Acrobat Reader.

(https://acrobat.adobe.com/sea/en/mobile/acrobat-reader.html)



Mis Week's Focus

This week, we begin our reading of Nehemiah and deal with one of the themes highlighted in this book – sin and brokenness. After this first reading, we will examine the theme of sin and brokenness in greater detail and what Scripture teaches about it.

MONDAY

"When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven." - Nehemiah 1:4 (NIV)



Today's Meditation

Nehemiah 1 (Read)

Reflection Questions

Put yourself in Nehemiah's shoes. Why would an individual who was born in exile respond the way he did to the news of Jerusalem's ruins? What are some possible factors leading to Nehemiah's reaction?

As you look at our society today, what do you think are some things that break the heart of God? Rather than turning a blind eye to these things, how can you pray and stand in the gap on behalf of those who cannot tell between right and wrong?

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.

TUESDAY

"Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him." - Genesis 6:22 (ESV)

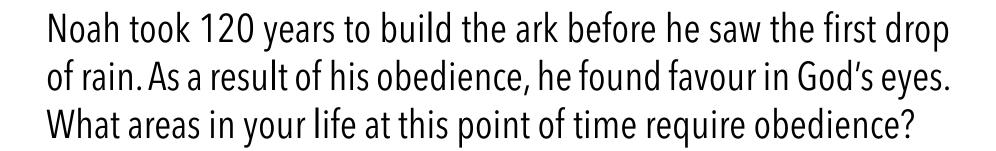


Today's Meditation

Genesis 6:5-22 (Read)

Reflection Questions

Examine verses 5-6. Why do you think the great God of the universe was grieved to His heart by the sins of men? Shouldn't this be an expected outcome as a result of the sin of Adam?



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WEDNESDAY

"For the LORD is righteous; He loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold His face." - **Psalm 11:7 (ESV)**

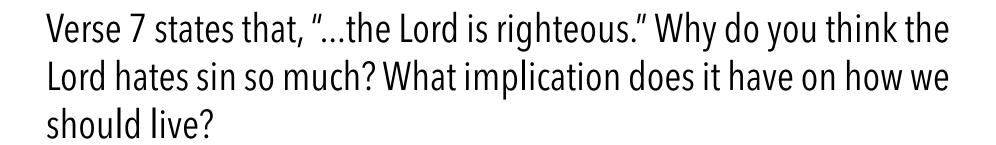


Today's Meditation

Psalm 11 (Read)

Reflection Questions

Verse 4 says, "He observes everyone on earth; His eyes examine them." In the light of this verse, does it matter how we live our lives? Does it matter what we do in public as well as in private, when no one else is watching?



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THURSDAY

"There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to Him..." - **Proverbs 6:16 (NIV)**



Today's Meditation

Proverbs 6:16-19 (<u>Read</u>)

Reflection Questions

Let's examine our lives in the light of these 7 characteristics - what does it mean or look like when you have these characteristics? How can you counteract them in your life?

- a) To have haughty eyes
- b) To have a lying tongue
- c) To have hands that shed innocent blood
- d) To have a heart that devises wicked schemes

e) To have feet that are quick to rush into evil
d) To be a false witness who pours out lies
e) To be a person who stirs up conflict in the community
Speak, Lord Your Servant is Listening
Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.
Any other promptings from the Holy Spirit? (Words of encouragement, specific actions, etc.)

FRIDAY

"I confess my iniquity; I am troubled by my sin." - **Psalm 38:18 (NIV)**



Today's Meditation

Psalms 38 (Read)

Reflection Questions

David is rehearsing the fact that his sin has caused God to judge him. As a result, David is suffering physically and emotionally. Through this Psalm, what do you think David is trying to lament to the Lord? "There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin." What do you think are the consequences of disobedience and a sinful lifestyle?

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

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SATURDAY

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." - **Psalm 51:10 (ESV)**



Today's Meditation

Psalms 51 (Read)

Reflection Questions

Examine this famous Psalm again. What have you observed about King David's prayer? Which parts of the Psalm do you resonate with the most?

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise." We all sin... but what matters is our posture. What does it mean for you to have a "broken spirit"?

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SUNDAY

"He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities." - **Psalm 103:10 (ESV)**



Today's Meditation

Psalm 103 (Read)

Reflection Questions

This Psalm begins and ends with a call to worship - to bless the Lord. The rest of the Psalm gives us the reason why. What are the characteristics of God listed in this Psalm that will cause us to worship Him?

This Psalm states that "the Lord does not deal with us according to our sin." This is grace. Remember the times in your life when you have disappointed God through sin. Contrast that with the characteristics of God you just listed. Then, write a prayer to God thanking Him for His grace.

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.



Video: Overview of Nehemiah by Bible Project (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkETkRv9tG8)

Article: What Dulls Your Appetite For God by Marshall Segal (https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/what-dulls-your-appetite-for-god)

Video: The Testimony of Shawn Michaels by Crosswalk (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdmSrkr54vk)

Song: Purify My Heart by Jeremy Passion & The Katinas (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RqpOJMYJvhU)



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