

One Year Bible – Week 18

Summary: Luke / John Reading

Luke finishes with the final few days of Jesus' earthly ministry; from his arrest to his death on the cross; from his burial and resurrection, to his post-resurrection appearances and ascension to heaven. John begins with a summary introduction of Jesus' life from the very beginning.

Summary: Judges Reading

We are introduced to numerous judges for Israel among them are reputable judges such as Gideon and Sampson.

Things to Look For and Questions to Ponder as You Read:

- *OT* – The story of Gideon in the book of Judges is a challenging story. In this story we see God acting in ways we often want him to but are atypical of the way he normally does. For instance, God sends Gideon to fight with the assurance that he will not die (Jdg 6:23) Then, after assurance from God, Gideon asks for miraculous confirmation to double-check what God had promised, and then again to triple-check (Jdg 6:36-40). Though we would feel more comfortable with assurances of safety from God and multiple, miraculous confirmations of his direction, God calls us to live by faith; trusting him and submitting to him in all our ways. How would you describe Gideon's faith? How do you perceive God's desire in the story of Gideon? In what ways could Gideon have acted differently that would have honored God more?
- *NT* – Luke is now the third account of Jesus' death and resurrection we have read. Are there different parts of this story that strike you or do you find yourself focusing on the same aspects of the story when you read it? What do you think God is showing you in your reading of Jesus' sacrifice?
- *NT* – Sometimes people ask where in the Bible does Jesus say he is God? Well, there are places where he all but says those words, but there are numerous other occurrences where others acknowledge him as divine. John chapter 1 is loaded with multiple testimonies of Jesus being identified as the Son of God or as the expected Messiah. Mark in your Bible all the occurrences you find in John chapter 1 and beyond of Jesus being acknowledged as divine.

Small Group Questions:

- 1) *NT* – The account on the Road to Emmaus is an intriguing story about Jesus revealing all the Scriptures about him. Read this story in Luke 24:13-35. What strikes you from this story? What do you think Cleopas and his travel companion were feeling at different stages of their walk? Why? What do you think Cleopas and his travel companion meant when they acknowledged their hearts were burning within them? Share a story if you can relate to this allusion. – *Apr 29*
- 2) *NT* – The beginning of the book of John is a poetic and revealing testimony of the identity and life of Jesus. Read John 1:1-18. What do you notice in this passage that reveals something about Jesus? How might you reference this passage to share with someone that the Bible does in fact indicate Jesus is God? – *Apr 30*
- 3) *OT* – Read Psalm 103:10-12. Recognize that David is speaking these words long before Jesus enters into the picture. What words catch your attention in these three verses? Why? What are the main subjects talked about in these verses? Do these themes surprise you being found here in the Old Testament? Why or why not? Summarize in your own words what David is saying in verse 10. How would you rephrase verse 12 to explain it to someone else? – *May 2*

Journal the Psalms this week:

Remember that when we read the words "the LORD" in all capital letters that it is the usage of God's personal name – YHWH. David writes a Psalm of praise to YHWH in Psalm 103. Read through Psalm 103 and take note of all the references David makes of "YHWH." What occurrences of praise capture your attention in this Psalm? Journal about your observations. Also, journal your own list of praises to our personal God, YHWH. – *May 2*

Reading Schedule:

Jdg = Judges / Lk = Luke / Jn = John / Ps = Psalms / Pr = Proverbs



Apr 26 – Jdg 6:1-40 / Lk 22:54-23:12 / Ps 95:1-96:13 / Pr 14:5-6
Apr 27 – Jdg 7:1-8:17 / Lk 23:13-43 / Ps 97:1-98:9 / Pr 14:7-8
Apr 28 – Jdg 8:18-9:21 / Lk 23:44-24:12 / Ps 99:1-9 / Pr 14:9-10
Apr 29 – Jdg 9:22-10:18 / Lk 24:13-53 / Ps 100:1-5 / Pr 14:11-12
Apr 30 – Jdg 11:1-12:15 / Jn 1:1-28 / Ps 101:1-8 / Pr 14:13-14
May 1 – Jdg 13:1-14:20 / Jn 1:29-51 / Ps 102:1-28 / Pr 14:15-16
May 2 – Jdg 15:1-16:31 / Jn 2:1-25 / Ps 103:1-22 / Pr 14:17-19