



## SUMMER READING PLAN

### DAY 11 1 SAMUEL 8:1-22

11

Imagine you opened an unexpected letter one morning. Inside was either a huge bonus or a huge bill. How would that bill change your day? I'm guessing the crushing weight of the bill would follow you like a dark cloud. And I expect the bonus would lift your spirits all day. Why? Because we are confident and secure when we know we have more than enough. In today's reading, the Israelites thought they didn't have enough. So they clamored for a king. They had it all with God. But they just couldn't see it. So, instead of confidence and security, they had anxiety and fear. God gave them what they wanted. And those kings failed Israel repeatedly. But one day, the King of Kings would take humanity's failure on Himself. Now, He gives us more than we need. It sounds like you got a bonus.

### DAY 12 PROVERBS 3:1-26

12

Have you set out on a hike through the woods and ended up getting lost? Perhaps what you thought was a path wasn't, and you didn't know how to get out. But in state and national parks, the paths are marked by symbols called blazes. All you have to do is follow the blazes. You might not know where you are any more than you did ten minutes ago, but when you trust the person who marked the path it will lead you to where you need to go. Following God's way is like that. We don't always know exactly where we are or where we're going, but if we trust in God with all our hearts, He will lead us where we need to go. And something else happens: trusting in Him allows us to enjoy the beauty along the way!

### DAY 13 PSALM 1:1-6

13

When I try to fix my car, I just make things worse. But my friend has been a mechanic for decades. When I have trouble, I rely on him. He brings years of wisdom to every baffling challenge. Over time, he's learned how cars work. He makes it look so easy. Cars are easier to fix if you know how cars work, where they usually go wrong, and you've fixed them before. Wisdom is like that. Wisdom is the way things work best. Wisdom understands how life works, where it usually goes wrong, and how to fix things. The first Psalm presents two options. First, you can follow those who don't get how life works, and life won't work out for you either. Or you can follow the One who wrote the book on life and learn how to make life work for you too.

## DAY PSALM 23:1-6

14

The last thing that God desires is for us to be distant from Him. God wants for us to have a strong, personal relationship with Him. In Psalm 23, David uses the dynamic, caring, relationship between a shepherd and his sheep to give us a picture of how God works in our lives. He shows us that God gives us what we need when we need it. That God is quick to restore us when we fail. God leads us through dark times with guidance, comfort, and correction (when needed). God will pursue us with His love every second of our lives. God is for us, even when we are not feeling it. His love is stronger than death and just as certain.

## DAY PSALM 51:1-19

15

No sin is greater than God's grace to forgive. No sinner is beyond God's power to restore. Have you ever been caught in an addictive habit with your world crumbling down around you? King David, who wrote many of the psalms, was there, immersed in lies, sexual sin, and murder. Instead of running from it, David confessed it. Through that moment of incredible brokenness before God, David was healed. No one is ever too far gone or too deep into their sin that God cannot pull them out and change them, revive them, and make them useful for His kingdom. God called David a man after His own heart. That fills me with hope. David made so many horrible mistakes, yet God still used him. God can still use any of us despite our past when we're willing to come to Him, repent, and be restored.

AppNotes are available on our Facebook page, Monday-Friday.

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