

2014

Session 11

The Summer Reading Challenge



THE BIBLE IN 90 DAYS™

WHOLE-CHURCH CHALLENGE

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Tonight's Outline

- Welcome Activities
- Reading Discussion (30 min)
- Video (20 min)
- Video Discussion
- This Coming Week's Reading
- Closing Prayer



Welcome Activities

- Opening Prayer

Reading Discussion

- You may not believe that there are five errors in these five statements. List the five errors and corrections to them below:
 1. God instructs Obadiah to marry Gomer, a woman God knows will be unfaithful.
 2. Jonah is upset when he's swallowed by a big fish, but afterward he still doesn't carry out God's directive to prophesy to the Ninevites.
 3. The book of Habakkuk has nothing in common with the book of Job.
 4. Haggai 1:5-11 suggests that God does not react to the actions of people.
 5. Malachi is the last book of the Old Testament.

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- After finishing the OT and just getting a taste of the NT, what are some of the differences between the two that you've already noticed from your reading?

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Internal Reflection: As the OT contained many warnings, is there also something in your life that loved ones or respected people have warned you about, but you've ignored? What is it?
- Is there a warning that came to fruition?
- Is there any possibility that the warnings were God's way of getting your attention?
- Any chance you should respond differently than you have in the past? If so, how?

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- More Internal Reflection:
- Matthew 6 teaches about giving in secret. Have you given in secret this past year?
- What might you consider secretly giving in the near future?
- Start a "What Might Be Next For Me?" list and add your thoughts to this list.

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Which one are you in the story of Hosea and Gomer? Why?
- Comparing a group of women to cows (Amos 4:1) isn't politically correct by today's standards. Why did Amos do it?
- Most of us have at least one Jonah moment - a time when God calls & we flee in the opposite direction. Describe yours. (Jonah 1:1-3)

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Habakkuk's central complaint to the Lord: 'Why do you tolerate wrong?' (Habakkuk 1:3b) Does God tolerate wrong?
- Malachi reminds us of rampant human failure reflected throughout the Old Testament. Why are we worthy of the gift we'll come to know in the New Testament?
- As you continue your reading, view the NT with new eyes. See if Christ doesn't actually 'up the ante.' (e.g. Matthew 5:21-22)
- Distinguish 'testing' (Matthew 16:1) from 'asking' (Matthew 21:22).

Video

- Our video teacher is Dr. Mark Strauss



- Professor of New Testament at Bethel Seminary in San Diego, California

Video Discussion

- Thoughts?
- Questions?
- Observations?
- Comments?

This Coming Week's Reading



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- Matthew 27 through Acts 5
- [Comparing Gospel Accounts](#)
- [Paul's Timeline](#)

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Mark Overview
 - The shortest of the four Gospels, Mark focuses on the ministry of Christ, beginning with his baptism by John the Baptist and ending with his resurrection.
- Luke Overview
 - Luke was a Gentile physician who traveled as a missionary with the Apostle Paul. He also wrote the book of Acts. In this Gospel, Luke provides “an orderly account” of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus, highlighting Jesus’ relationship with many different kinds of people and emphasizing that Jesus came for all people, not just the Jews.

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)



- John Overview
 - Harkening back to Genesis, the book of John asserts, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John portrays Jesus as the Son of God.
- Acts Overview
 - Written by Luke, Acts describes the coming of the Holy Spirit, the forming and persecution of the early church, the conversion and ministry of Paul, and the miraculous spread of Christianity.



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Closing Prayer