

2014

Session 4

The Summer Reading Challenge



THE BIBLE IN 90 DAYS™

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Tonight's Outline

- Welcome Activities
- Reading Discussion (30 min)
- Video (20 min)
- Video Discussion (10 min)
- This Coming Week's Reading
- Closing Prayer

Welcome Activities

- Opening Prayer
- **"Life's Little Instruction Book: 511 suggestions, observations, and reminders on how to live a happy and rewarding life" – H. Jackson Brown, Jr.**
 - Learn to make great chili
 - Never buy a house without a fireplace
 - Over-tip breakfast waitresses
 - Eat prunes
 - Be brave. Even if you're not, pretend to be. No one can tell the difference.
 - Never go to bed with dirty dishes in the sink.

Reading Discussion

- Why do you think there is such a disconnect between modern Christians and the Bible?
- How is your perception of the Bible changing as you are doing the daily readings?
- What questions evolved from your reading this week?

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Our reading shows us many instances when Israel only partially follows God's commands. What are some examples and what were the results?
- Based on our reading to date, talk about what God tends to do when a society turns to him for help.

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Deut. 23 thru 1 Sam. 27
- You're Moses, standing on Mount Nebo and gazing at the Promised Land. What are you thinking? (Deut. 34:1-8)
- When, if ever, is it okay to lie? (Joshua 2:5)

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- What do you notice that caused Israel to plummet into rebellion so quickly? (Judges 2:6-15)
- Have fleeces ever worked for you? (Judges 6:36-40)
- Samson confides in you that he has trouble with women but doesn't understand why. What would you tell him? (Judges 13-16)

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- There are a ton of life lessons in the book of Ruth. Which one resonates most with you?
- How do you listen to God? (1 Samuel 3:1-10)
- What Goliaths have you successfully slain? What was in your sling? (1 Samuel 17)

Things That Make You Go Hmmm....

- Joshua and the Israelites defeated 31 kings (Joshua 12)
- What about the kings they didn't defeat?
- What did you think of Samson? How did he maintain his Nazirite vow?
- Would you have eaten or drunk anything that Samson brought you?

Things That Make You Go Hmmm.... (cont.)

- Was Samson yet another example of God battling other gods?
- Ruth, a Moabitess, is the great-grandmother of King David, and therefore an ancestor of Jesus. (Jesus' genealogy is not all Jewish).
- According to Rabbinical teachings, Goliath was the son of Orpah (Ruth's sister-in-law) and that he had 3 other "giant" brothers.

Video

- Our video teacher is Dr. John Walton



- Professor of Old Testament at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois

Video Discussion

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

This Coming Week's Reading

- 1 Sam. 28 thru 2 Kings 25
- This week's reading may be confusing:
 - Many new people and names
 - Some things are described more than once.
 - The kings of Israel (North) and Judah (South) are handled in rapid-fire succession.
- Focus your attention on the patterns of behavior - i.e. who followed God and who did not.

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Intro to 2 Samuel
- David becomes king over a unified country: Israel and Judah
- David exhibits many shortcomings, but still has a constant faith in God.

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Intro to 1 Kings
- Reign of Solomon.
- World's wisest man. (Or is he?)
- Last king to rule over a unified country (Israel and Judah)

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)



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- Intro to 2 Kings
- The continued account of a divided kingdom: Israel and Judah



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Closing Prayer