

2014

## Session 6

# The Summer Reading Challenge



**THE BIBLE IN 90 DAYS™**

WHOLE-CHURCH CHALLENGE

WHOLE-CHURCH CHALLENGE

THE BIBLE IN 90 DAYS

# 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
- Story about the 3 sons

# Reading Discussion

- Based on your reading so far, what are three or four ways in which you think God intends for us to benefit from the Scriptures?

# Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Benefits of Scripture Reading
  - God reveals himself to us
  - God instructs us regarding how to live
  - God demonstrates his love for us
  - God gave the Bible to us so that we could have a ready reference to answer many of our questions about Christian living.

# Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Did you enjoy the Bible in these ways before starting B90?
- Have you enjoyed the Bible in these ways since starting B90?
- What about after you finish B90?

# Reading Discussion (cont.)

- What questions do you have from your reading this week?
- Imagine what the temple might have looked like – what would have been most striking to you?
- What does scripture suggest about Solomon's care in building the temple?

# Reading Discussion (cont.)

- God responds to Solomon's dedication in three ways. What did he say?
- 2 Chron 7:11-16
- 2 Chron 7:17-18
- 2 Chron 7:19-22



# Reading Discussion (cont.)

- In his life and writing, Ezra adamantly encouraged people to follow the Law. Think of someone you can encourage this week to read or study the Bible.
- Who is it?
- How can you encourage them?
- How would they benefit?
- How can you break down barriers that would prevent you from talking to them?

# Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Would any of Nehemiah's leadership qualities be relevant for today's leaders?
- Did you learn anything from Nehemiah that you could add to your own leadership toolbox?
- What was it?

# Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Have you prayed Jabez's prayer? With what results? (1 Chron 4:9-10)
- Why do you think David's census was such a bad thing in God's eyes? (1 Chron 21)
- What are some things David says to Solomon that you would want to say to your son before you die? (1 Chron 28:8-21)
- God promises to heal the land if Israel will keep certain conditions. Which conditions do you think is most important today? (2 Chron 7:14)

# Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Israel loved their false gods. What are some of the false gods in our culture today, and how do they affect you?
- What difficulties did the Jews experience during rebuilding, and how does that remind you of your experiences? (Ezra 1-9)
- What place does Nehemiah's prayer life play in his leadership? (Neh 1:5-11; 2:4; 4:4)

# Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Recap the OT so far...

# 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



- Nehemiah 13 through Psalms 88
- As you read through Psalms, mark ones that seem relevant to you so that you can return to them later.
- Written as many as 1000 years before Christ – several psalms point to Jesus: 2, 8, 16, 22, 45, 69, 72, 89, 100, 118, and 132.



# This Coming Week's Reading

- 73 psalms are credited to David (said to be "of David")
- C. S. Lewis said: “The psalms are poems, and poems intended to be sung: not doctrinal treatises, not even sermons . . . They must be read as poems if they are to be understood . . . Otherwise we will miss what is in them and think we see what is not.”

# This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Intro to Esther
- Describing events several decades prior to those described in Nehemiah
- The events in Esther may have enabled those in Nehemiah.

# This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Intro to Job
- Scholars believe that Job was a contemporary of the patriarchs. (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob)
- In this philosophical discourse, God allows Satan to test Job, then clears up some misconceptions of Job and his friends.

# This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Intro to Psalms
- One of the best-loved books of the Bible
- Psalms is a collection of 150 hymns and poems, authored over a period of hundreds of years.
- As you move through the Psalms at your normal *The Bible in 90 Days* reading pace, mark the ones you want revisit at a later date in order to appreciate them more fully.



**THE BIBLE IN 90 DAYS™**

WHOLE-CHURCH CHALLENGE

WHOLE-CHURCH CHALLENGE

THE BIBLE IN 90 DAYS

# Closing Prayer