

2014

Session 9

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

- What is foretold by, 'Aliens will join them and unite with the house of Jacob?' (Isaiah 14:1b)?
- God calls out hypocrites in Isaiah 29:13. Is he calling you out?
- How should we view '... he will bring justice to all nations' (Isaiah 42:1b) in the context of the 21st Century?

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Isaiah 55:10-11 reminds us why we are reading ALL of God's Word. Name one way your reading has changed you already.
- Isaiah 58 describes “true fasting.” Many Christians today have never fasted, much less fasted in a way intended to please God. Have you ever fasted? If so, what was it like? If not, would you consider doing so?

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- God appointed Jeremiah prophet to nations before he was even formed in the womb (Jeremiah 1:5). Does this comfort or convict you?
- What are your worthless wooden idols (Jeremiah 10:8)?
- '... let the one who has my word speak it faithfully...' declares the Lord (Jeremiah 23:28). What should you do TODAY in response?

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- Biblical prophecy is not just about predicting future events. In fact, much of it serves a distinctly different purpose: It provides an inspired perspective on current events. Keep this in mind as you discuss the next 2 questions.
- Use a word or brief phrase to capture Jeremiah's description of godly people in the following verses:
 - 7:23
 - 9:24
 - 22:16
 - 24:7
 - 29:11
- Do you agree with this list? What would you add to or subtract from it?

Reading Discussion (cont.)

- What attributes of God are found in the following passages from Jeremiah?
 - 27:4 – 6
 - 31:1 – 4
 - 31:34b
 - 32:40
- Name at least two attributes of God not described in the passages above.
- Do you now have a comprehensive picture of God? Why or why not?

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



- Jeremiah 33 through Daniel 8
- Reading Tip:
- Here are some of the major hurdles we encounter when reading the books of the prophets:
 - Knowing when the prophet is writing
 - Knowing to whom the prophet is writing
 - Knowing the circumstances of the prophet's audience
 - Knowing whether the prophet is describing a current event/situation or one that the prophet is foretelling
- Prophets printout –
<http://www.stjohnsumc.cc/images/files/b90/Prophets.pdf>

This Coming Week's Reading (cont.)

- Lamentations Overview
 - Poetic laments concerning the destruction of Jerusalem.
- Ezekiel Overview
 - Ezekiel's initial prophecies warn of the fall of Jerusalem. After the fall, he offers oracles of hope.
- Daniel Overview
 - Daniel and his three friends are exemplary representatives of God while in exile in Babylon. While there, Daniel pens a number of long-range prophecies.



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Closing Prayer