



This week our study reminds us how important it is to trust and believe in God's promises.



Torchlight

"Jonathan, by birth heir to the throne, yet knowing himself set aside by the divine decree; to his rival the most tender and faithful of friends, shielding David's life at the peril of his own; steadfast at his father's side through the dark days of his declining power, and at his side falling at the last—the name of Jonathan is treasured in heaven, and it stands on earth a witness to the existence and the power of unselfish love."

— Education p. 157



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Friendship and the Throne

Daily Devotional 39



SUNDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You for the many blessings You provide for me each day. Help me to praise and thank You more. Help me to be kind even when someone is not kind to me. Thank You for my Bible.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-18

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 26:1-25



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading tells us today that the Ziphites again informed Saul of David's whereabouts. Saul's jealous heart rose up again and he decided to go after David taking three thousand men with him. David was informed about this and one night went out with a few of his men to find out their exact location. When they came upon the encampment, David and Abishai continued alone to investigate further. They found the whole encampment in a deep slumber. Saul was laying next to Abner, his chief commander, but both were unaware that David and Abishai were right beside them. Abishai wanted to kill Saul but David again did not want to take the life of God's anointed. Instead, David took Saul's spear and water jug that was



lying next to him and stood on a hill a distance away from the camp and starting yelling out to Abner. David accused Abner of neglecting his post, as he was not aware that they had crept into the camp. Saul was again humbled that David had not taken his life and promised not to pursue David and harm him anymore.

Through the kind acts of David, God was working on Saul's heart by giving him opportunities to see how destructive his behaviour really was. This humbled Saul but not enough for him to go before God and ask forgiveness for his sins. God gives us every opportunity, as well, to come to Him. It's something to think about!

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 26:_____

"And David answered and said, 'Here is the king's _____.' _____"

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





MONDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, You are so mighty to save! You are the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. You are amazing and I thank You for loving me so much. Please Father, give me more faith and trust in You and help me to believe in Your promises. I want the Words in the Bible to be a part of my daily life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-18

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 27:1-12 &
28:1-2



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading from the Bible today tells us that David waived and lost his faith in God's promises. Instead of consulting God about what to do David became discouraged with the constant running away from Saul and fled to the enemy for refuge. Even though Saul had promised not to harm David, David did not trust Saul's unstable mind. King Achish of Gath welcomed David with open arms and gave him the city of Ziklag. Ziklag was an isolated city, which was a blessing in disguise as it kept David, his men and all their families safe from the idol worship of the Philistines. David and his family and his six hundred men and their families lived in Ziklag for well over a year. Our reading ends today with the Philistines preparing for war again against the Israelites.

David was so overwhelmed with the events that were happening around him that it clouded his faith in God. It over shadowed the memories of what God had done for him in the past. Even though David did not forsake the worship of God in the enemy's land, just the fact that he went to the enemy for help dishonoured God. Learn from David's experiences and remember to believe in the promises of God!




FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 27:____

"____ who were with him to Achish the son of Maoch, king of Gath."

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





TUESDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, thank You for the hope and comfort Your promises give me. Jesus, please send me the Holy Spirit to protect my mind so Satan won't deceive me. Help me to be faithful until You come to take us home at Your Second Coming. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-18

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 28:3-25



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

From our reading today we find that Saul was very fearful and inquired of God as to what to do about the impending war against the Philistines. But God did not answer him. We learn that Saul, in complete desperation, went and consulted a witch. When Samuel was alive, he and Saul, in his early reign, had driven the witches and wizards from the land, as God had warned the Israelites about them in Deuteronomy 18:9-14. The witch at En Dor had been living in secret, as she knew she was not supposed to be there. Saul's visit to the witch was also done in secret, as he knew he shouldn't be there either. Verse 12 tells us that the witch supposedly brought up Samuel from the dead so Saul could ask him what



to do. But a witch has no power to do this. Only God has the power to raise people from the dead. God is our original creator and He is the only one who can recreate us. The only conclusion is that it was an evil spirit who was impersonating Samuel.

Ecclesiastes 9:5-6 tells us that when you die, your mind ceases to exist, so you cannot talk to anyone. Psalm 13:3 and John 11:11-14 tells us that death is just a sleep. Job 7:9-10 tells us that once you go to your grave that's where you stay until Jesus resurrects you. Death is something not to be afraid of because if you love Jesus, you will just sleep until He wakes you up at His second coming. Our memory verse is a lovely promise and gives us such hope.

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 28:_____

"And when Saul inquired of the LORD, the LORD did not answer _____,
_____."

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





WEDNESDAY

LET'S PRAY

Dear Father, thank You for loving me even when I do the wrong thing. Please forgive me for my sins and help me to think before I act. I need wisdom from You Lord so I can make better choices. Help me to be kind and patient with others just as You are kind and patient with me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-18

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words."

THERE'S POWER IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 29:1-11



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today is an interesting one. It tells us that David was in a difficult situation because of the choice he had made to go to the enemy for help. King Achish was flattered that David had come to him for refuge and grew to appreciate and admire him. King Achish naturally thought that David would go with him to war against the Israelites as David had been living in his country for a while. But David knew in his heart he could never fight against his own people. God, in his mercy, got David out of this sticky situation and caused the Philistine lords to reject David and his men and they told Achish to tell David to leave. They didn't trust David to not fight against them.



Wow, God is so good! Even though David had made a poor choice in seeking shelter from the enemy instead of going to God for shelter God still looked after David and got him out of a situation that could have turned into a disaster. God is so merciful! Look that word up in a dictionary to understand it better. It's something to think about!

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 29:_____

"Therefore return now, and go in peace, _____
_____."

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





THURSDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for my Bible. Thank You for my education so I can read it. Help me to do things Your way and not my own way. Please help me to be humble and trust in You more. I love You Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-18

"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

1 Samuel 31:1-13



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Sadly our story continues today with Saul and his sons dying on the battlefield against the Philistines. We read in Tuesday's devotional in 1 Samuel 28:17-19 that the evil spirit pretending to be Samuel told Saul he would lose the battle and die. Saul went into the battle with no hope so he could not encourage his army with the confidence of victory. Saul was hit by an arrow and wounded, and begged his armour bearer to take his life. His armour bearer refused and Saul took his own life instead. The Israelites fled and the Philistines won the battle. The next day when the enemy combed the battlefield for spoil, or treasure, they came across the dead bodies of Saul and his sons. They were treated shamefully and hung upon a city wall. The people of Jabesh Gilead, who had been rescued by Saul during the early years of his reign, had compassion on Saul and his sons, and retrieved their bodies and gave them a honourable burial.

Our reading today is a sobering one. Saul had rejected God by choosing to do things his way instead of God's way. God gave Saul plenty of opportunities to repent and change his ways but Saul chose not to because he was a proud man. Don't let pride get in the way of seeking forgiveness from God. God is waiting for us with open arms. He loves us so much – choose God today.



FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 1 SAMUEL 31:____

"_____, _____, _____, _____ all his men died together that same day."

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





LET'S PRAY

In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-18

“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

THERE'S POWER IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

2 Samuel 1:1-16



A young Amalekite man came from the battlefield to inform David about the deaths of Saul, Jonathan, Abinadab, and Malchishua. But our reading tells us that the young man made a big blunder. Instead of just telling David the facts, he decided to fatten out the story to make himself look good so favour would be shown to him. David and his men mourned greatly for the loss of Saul and Jonathan, even though Saul had caused so much heartache and trauma for David. The young messenger, who had boasted about taking the life of King Saul, had lied, as we know from 1 Samuel 31:4 that Saul took his own life. Because of his lie and boasting he was charged with the killing of the King and taking the life of one anointed by God and was punished with death.



Like Doeg in the previous devotional, this messenger was trying to 'climb the ladder' because of his ambition. But in doing so the messenger lost his life because he tried to make himself important by making the story bigger than it actually was. We need to make sure we tell the truth so that the words that come out of our mouth don't actually get us into big trouble. Look at these verses: *Ecclesiastes 5:2-3, Psalm 39:1, and Proverbs 12:19, 22.*

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - 2 SAMUEL 1:

"So David said to him, 'Your blood is on your own head, for your own mouth has _____,' _____,"

WHAT DID YOU LEARN TODAY WITH THE KING?





SABBATH

LET'S PRAY Dearest Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to this earth to rescue me. Please forgive me for my sins and help me to grow closer to Jesus. I want Jesus to be part of my daily life and to be his best friend. Help me to believe and trust in Your promises. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-18

“For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

2 Samuel 1:17-27 &
2:1-7



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Our reading today tells us that David composed a song on his harp about the death of Saul and Jonathan. Verses 25 and 26 tell us that David treasured Jonathan's friendship even above his own wives as, in those days, Kings would often marry for political reasons and not for love. Jonathan's death was a tragic loss for David as he had lost a wonderful friend. Jonathan knew that God had ordained David to be the next king because of his own father's unrepentant heart. Jonathan, who was a faithful man, accepted this and supported David as the rightful person next in line to the throne over himself. God had orchestrated Jonathan and David's friendship so they could support one another through those very turbulent and stressful years. Our reading also informs us that, with God's guidance, David went to the land of Judah and the people proclaimed David as King. This was all done in God's timing as it had been many years before that Samuel had anointed David for this role. David's faith had waivered at times and he had made some mistakes but, in the end, David had left the timing of when he would become King in God's hands. God also proved faithful and never deserted David. We can all learn from David and his up and down experiences and remember to hang on to God's hand no matter what we are going through and believe and trust in God's promises.



SABBATH QUIZ

1. What two items did David take while Saul was sleeping?

2. What was the city that King Achish gave David when he dwelt with the Philistines? _____

3. Whom did Saul consult in secret? _____

4. Where were the men from that gave Saul and his sons a decent burial? _____

5. In which town in Judah was David proclaimed King?