

Weekly Devotions 11th May – 17th May



A key way that we are going to be transformed as individuals and as a community is through consistent, meaningful engagement with God's Word. Daily Bible reading and meditating on Scripture is an ordinary means of grace through which God is delighted to work out His purposes in our lives.

Each day is divided nicely into the following sections:

- Prepare** Just a simple moment of quiet and then a simple prayer as you set aside time to engage in God's Word.
- Read** The day's reading. Some weeks it will be different bits of a passage, some weeks it will be the same passage repeated picking out different elements.
- Write** A good way to familiarise ourselves with Scripture is to write it out as we are forced then to really Concentrate.
- Learn** Hiding God's word in our hearts is a great goal so each day you'll be invited to learn just one verse to mull over during the day.
- Focus** This will be a question to help understand the passage. Try and be as thorough in answering as possible, chasing down all the possible angles.
- Reflect** This will be an extension question aimed at helping you reflect and relate to what you have read.
- Pray** There will be one thing to pray for at the end of each day, hopefully useful as a springboard to launch you in to praying through other things.

Hopefully all this will take no more than 15 minutes in total. There is not a better way we could spend this time.

Monday 11th May

Prepare: 'Thank you that your Word is useful, meet me in it in this time.'

Read: Exodus 18:1-8

Write: 18:8

Learn: 18:8

Focus: What is significant about the names Moses gives his sons?

Reflect: How can you get better at remembering all that God has done for you in the past?

Pray: 'Father, help me remember your goodness to me in the past so I might trust you in the present.'

Tuesday 12th May

Prepare: 'Deepen my wonder at your eternal plan.'

Read: Genesis 42:1-17

Write: 42:13

Learn: 42:13

Focus: Where do you see providence at work in this chapter?

Reflect: Can you think of times in your life where things have played out in mysterious ways?

Pray: 'Father, thank you that you are always working, give me eyes to see your work in my life.'

Wednesday 13th May

Prepare: 'Thank you that your Word will last forever, help me feast on it this, and everyday.'

Read: Exodus 18:9-12

Write: 18:10-11

Learn: 18:11

Focus: What can you conclude about the confession of Jethro in these verses?

Reflect: What can we learn about God from these verses?

Pray: 'Father, use me as your instrument that many might confess you as Lord.'

Thursday 14th May

Prepare: 'Help me unearth eternal treasure in your eternal Word.'

Read: Genesis 42:18-26

Write: 42:21

Learn: 42:22

Focus: What emotions would Joseph have experienced as he heard his brothers talking?

Reflect: Joseph is incredibly gracious to his treacherous brothers, what opportunities do you have today to show grace to undeserving people?

Pray: 'Lord, help me be an agent of grace and an ambassador of your Son today.'

Friday 15th May

Prepare: 'Thank you that your Word is nourishing, sustain me by it this and every day.'

Read: Exodus 18:13-27

Write: 18:18

Learn: 18:18

Focus: How would you sum up Jethro's message to Moses?

Reflect: In what ways could you make the load lighter for someone?

Pray: 'Father, help me carry burdens, serve humbly, and work hard for your glory.'

Saturday 16th May

Prepare: 'Thank you that your Word is the most powerful force in the universe.'

Read: Genesis 42:27-38

Write: 42:36

Learn: 42:36

Focus: What is ironic about vs.31-32?

Reflect: What would you have done if you were Jacob in this passage of Scripture?

Pray: 'Father God, help me play my part amongst your people for your glory and the expansion of your Kingdom.'

Sunday 17th May

Read before the morning: Exodus 18:1:18-27

Read after the evening: Genesis 42