



DAILY DEVOTIONS

THE ARROWS OF BIBLE READING



What does this passage say?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What does this passage tell us about man?



What does this passage demand of me?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?

12:30 - 1:00

SAMUEL 8:1-3

Samuel's sons were nothing like their father. The Scriptures describe them as people who sought 'dishonest profit, took bribes, and perverted justice' (v. 3). If you have godly parents, don't assume that you will have the same character or spiritual health as them. Each person must submit to God and seek to honor Him regardless of their spiritual heritage. Samuel's sons also give hope to those who do not have godly parents. You don't have to follow in their footsteps. May you live for the Lord, either by building upon your parents' legacy or learning from their mistakes.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT YOU MUST PERSONALLY FOLLOW GOD?

HOW CAN YOU IMITATE THE EXAMPLE OF GODLY LEADERS IN YOUR LIFE?

HOW CAN YOU MAINTAIN YOUR INTEGRITY UNLIKE SAMUEL'S SONS?

DAY 02

SAMUEL 8:4-22

WHAT THINGS COMPETE TO RULE OVER YOUR LIFE?

HOW MIGHT SERVING OTHER "KINGS" BE COSTING YOU?

HOW CAN YOU SERVE CHRIST AS KING MORE?

Israel had a king even before they requested a king from Sam. God was their King, but they had selected for in favor of a human king like the nations around them. We all have a King. Someone or something will rule your life, and it will either be God or something else—popularity, money, social media, hobbies, friends, goals, work, like, respect, fame, we are called by other things, but will come at high personal costs. And that's called a great God, a great King above all things. (Ps. 95:3)

DAY 03

1 SAMUEL 9:1-27

When Samuel first told Saul that he was the kind of king that Israel wanted, Saul responded with much humility (see v. 21). He did not feel entitled or even deserving of the honor. God may open the door for you to do extraordinary things for Him. You may be a leader among your peers or hold a high office one day. And when that happens, may you carry yourself with humility. Don't let the opportunity or position get to your head. Rather, confess like John the Baptist, "He must increase, but I must decrease" (John 3:30).

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES HAS GOD GIVEN YOU TO LEAD?

HOW CAN POSITION OR INFLUENCE LEAD TO PRIDE?

HOW CAN YOU REMAIN HUMBLE REGARDLESS OF STATUS OR POSITION?

SAMUEL 10:1-16

HOW CAN YOU TELL WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT IS WORKING IN SOMEONE'S HEART?

HOW HAS GOD TRANSFORMED YOU IN SOME WAY?

HOW DO YOU WANT GOD TO CONTINUE TO CHANGE YOU?

God didn't just give Saul a new job. He transformed him. When the Spirit came upon Saul, he was changed (see v. 6). The Holy Spirit transforms us when He comes to dwell within us. It's like how a house begins to change when a family moves into it. They put their personal touch on the place: paint, décor, family pictures, and more. Ask God to change your heart to shape your character, and to mold you into the person He wants you to be.

SAMUEL 10:17-27

There are several virtues that are great to have, but one that you will increasingly need is courage. When Saul was anointed and presented as king, the Scriptures tell us that "brave men whose hearts God had touched went with him" (v. 26). It takes bravery to follow King Jesus. But when God touches your heart, you will have the courage you need. Think of ways you might need more courage and ask God to give you the bravery to follow Jesus with all your heart.

WHY DOES IT TAKE COURAGE TO FOLLOW JESUS?

WHAT ARE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF HOW YOU NEED COURAGE?

WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL GIVE YOU MORE COURAGE TO FOLLOW CHRIST?