

Chasing Donkeys or Chasing God, April 23-26, 2026

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? **Circle Two Opportunity...**

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face **anything** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth and 2. Stronger "iron sharpening iron" relationships

Ephesians 4:12-16 (ESV)

Timeline: 1 Samuel, 1100-1010 B.C.

2 Samuel 1010-970 B.C.

Daily Reading Chapters Discussion

Big themes – what are the parts we need to grasp to better understand "His-Story?" Since God has included these biographical sketches, what is important for us to know and apply?

➔ **Finishing well with God is KEY**

Luke 8:4-15 (ESV)

Patience: *capacity to continue to bear up under difficult circumstances. (Greek-English Lexicon of NT)*

APPLICATION: Into which type of soil does each person in this week's chapters fit? Why does it matter?

➔ **Saul and David's connection with New Testament** – Saul is never mentioned; David is core.

QUESTION: why do we keep expecting different than Saul from people who are not following God?

Christ (the Messiah) was the fulfillment of the prophecy of the seed of David, 2 Sam. 7:12-16

Luke 1:32 (ESV) He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,

➔ **Saul's failure as king** – What do you see as the factors of his failure?

How do we learn from him, so we don't make the same mistakes?

➔ **David chosen as the next king, friendship with Jonathan, David on the run**

1 Sam 16 - 24 David Anointed King, David in Saul's Service (from last week)

1 Sam 25 The Death of Samuel, David and Abigail

1 Sam 26 David Spares Saul Again

1 Sam 27 David Flees to the Philistines

1 Sam 28 Saul and the Medium of En-Dor

1 Sam 29-30 The Philistines Reject David, Families Captured, David Defeats the Amalekites

David got himself into a dilemma human wisdom could not solve: either fight against his own country or betray a Philistine friend who had harbored. God would have been just to let David suffer consequences

Notice God's intervention

1. nudged Philistine generals to refuse David's participation.

2. sent David back in time to rescue his people and possessions

➔ **End of Saul's reign, beginning of David's**

1 Sam 31 The Death of Saul

2 Sam 1 David Hears of Saul's Death, David's Lament for Saul and Jonathan

2 Samuel 1:17-27 (ESV)

➔ **Messiness of transition from Saul to David**

2 Sam 2 David Crowned King of Judah, Ish-bosheth Made King of Israel, The Battle of Gibeah

2 Sam 3 Abner Joins David, Joab Murders Abner, David Mourns Abner

2 Sam 4 Ish-Bosheth Murdered

This week's Psalms

➔ **In context of David's circumstances**

Ps 56 In God I Trust

Ps 120 Deliver Me, O Lord

Ps 140 Deliver Me, O Lord, from Evil Men

Ps 141 Give Ear to My Voice

Ps 142 You are My Refuge

Ps 17 In the Shadow of Your Wings

Ps 35 Great is the Lord

Ps 54 The Lord Upholds My Life

Ps 63 My Soul Thirst for You

Ps 18 The Lord is My Rock and My Fortress

➔ **Psalms that are Songs of Ascents**

Ps 121 My Help Comes from the Lord

Ps 123 Our Eyes Look to the Lord Our God

Ps 124 Our Help is in the Name of the Lord

Ps 125 The Lord Surrounds His People

Ps 128 Blessed is Everyone Who Fears the Lord

Ps 129 They Have Afflicted Me from My Youth

Ps 130 My Soul Waits for the Lord

➔ **Psalms of poetic imagery and emotions**

Ps 6 O Lord, Deliver My Life

Ps 8 How Majestic is Your Name

Ps 9 I Will Recount Your Wonderful Deeds

Ps 10 Where Do You Hide Yourself

Ps 14 The Fool Says, there is No God

Ps 16 You Will Not Abandon My Soul

Ps 19 The Law of the Lord is Perfect

Ps 21 The King Rejoices in the Lord's Strength

Discuss: what did you highlight or note in the Psalms included in this week's readings?

how do you see David's intimacy and alignment with God by connecting the Psalms with circumstances?

Chronological Guide: pages p. 50-51

Takeaways:

