



my grandma time

...doing simple things together!

Week 18, Day 1 --- Psalm 102-104

Week 18, Day 2 --- 2 Samuel 5:1-10 - 1 Chronicles 11-12

Week 18, Day 3 --- Psalm 133

Week 18, Day 4 --- Psalm 106-107

Week 18, Day 5 --- 2 Samuel 5:11-6:23 - 1 Chronicles 13-16

Week 18, Day 6 --- Psalm 1-2 - Psalm 15 - Psalm 22-24 - Psalm 47 - Psalm 68

Week 18, Day 7 --- Psalm 89 - Psalm 96 - Psalm 100 - Psalm 101 - Psalm 105 - Psalm 132

Day 1 --- Psalm 102-104

In some ways these psalms should be read in reverse order. The last two are full of promises and descriptions of God. The first is a cry for help. You might find it helpful to go back and read Genesis 1 after reading Psalm 104. Take the time to write down the promises that God makes through these psalms. What is always true about God?

Day 2 --- 2 Samuel 5:1-10 - 1 Chronicles 11-12

We take for granted the smooth and non-violent transfer of power. We elect a new president and he comes into office without a major war occurring. This wasn't the normal thing in David's time. A new king typically came to power because his army had been victorious over the army of the previous king. David would go to war, but not against his fellow Israelites. God was preparing to bring in a time of peace, but war against Israel's enemies would be the first step. These were his warriors. Some of the names you'll never read again. There are others who will be important characters through the whole story. How old was David when he became king over Judah?

Day 3 --- Psalm 133

You probably know how hard it is for brothers to live in unity. Some of the images in this psalm may not make sense. For example, in a hot and dry climate the skin becomes dry and can crack. They didn't have hand lotion. Oil on the head and face would be a luxury, but would feel really good. Jacob's sons fought all the time. The tribes of Israel often fought against one another. For this one brief moment in history God brought them together under David. It must have been an incredible time.

Day 4 --- Psalm 106-107

Psalm 106 begins with praise and thanksgiving and ends with praise and thanksgiving. In between is a review of Israel's history from the Exodus to the Babylonian captivity. You haven't read about that yet, but it is close to the end of the story in the Old Testament. I think this psalm was written during the Babylonian captivity, many hundreds of years after David.

Psalm 107 contains a very important message. It describes a variety of circumstances where people are in trouble and God rescues them. I think the message is that our circumstances are continually changing, but God's love never changes.

## Day 5 --- 2 Samuel 5:11-6:23 - 1 Chronicles 13-16

There is so much in this section of reading that it is hard to know where to begin. It is important to read both accounts of this period of history. They are written from different points of view, but together it is possible to get a more complete picture. For example, in 2 Samuel David and his men gather up the idols of the Philistines after battle. That could be good or it could be very bad. 1 Chronicles explains that they gather them up and burn them. That is very good. Notice that David always inquires of God before battle and the result is that he is consistently victorious.

There was a time when David was just like any other man and refused to read the instruction manual. The books of the law are very clear on how the Ark of the Covenant is to be moved from place to place. (see Numbers 4 for instructions on carrying the ark) It was to be carried on poles by the Levites and it was not to be touched by anyone. David chose the fast way to move the ark and the result was that when it was about to slip off the cart Uzzah reached out to steady it and died. This was an important reminder to David about how serious God is about obedience.

David goes back and reads the instructions and the second time he goes to get the ark he does it right. David throws a huge party to celebrate the return of the ark. There is singing and dancing and incredible amounts of food. David could have been the center of attention, but instead he removes his royal robes and dresses in the most simple common way he can. Saul's daughter Michal, David's wife, gets very upset that David is dancing with the common people. The result for her is that she never has a child and that was a terrible thing for a woman in that day.

This section ends with a psalm. It is a celebration song. I look forward to the day when I can hear it sung just as it was then.

## Day 6 --- Psalm 1-2 - Psalm 15 - Psalm 22-24 - Psalm 47 - Psalm 68

In most of these psalms the emphasis is on the triumphant reign of God. God is the ultimate King. However, in the middle of your reading you'll come across Psalms 22-24. Psalm 22 is a prophetic psalm. It was written by David, probably at a period later in his life when he is really suffering. When you read Psalm 22 it is also a good idea to read the gospel accounts of the crucifixion. (Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, and John 19) How many specific things do you see in these accounts that are predicted by David in his psalm? David is beginning to paint a picture of a different kind of king. Watch for this picture as you continue to read through the Old Testament.

## Day 7 --- Psalm 89 - Psalm 96 - Psalm 100 - Psalm 101 - Psalm 105 - Psalm 132

Psalm 89 begins praising God for His blessing on David. It describes the covenant that God made with David to keep David's family on the throne forever. This covenant was completed when Jesus became our King as he is from the family of David. The end of the psalm may have been written later, possibly from captivity, and seems to be a request for God to keep His covenant and restore a king from the family of David to the throne.

Psalm 96, 100, and 101 are songs of joy and worship. I'm reading this on a Sunday and one of the things I'm looking forward to is singing praise to God today. Through singing my spirit connects with God's Spirit. I believe that singing is one of the keys to spiritual growth. Pray for a day when you will be able to sing.

Psalm 105 is a song celebrating the Exodus.

Psalm 132 is basically a song in praise of Jerusalem. I would love to go visit there someday.

In your reading this week, what did the writers of the psalm celebrate? What do they say about God over and over again? It would be a good thing to pick one of these psalms and memorize it so that you always have it with you, even when you don't have your Bible.