



my grandma time

...doing simple things together!

Week 22, Day 1 --- Psalm 111-118

Week 22, Day 2 --- 1 Kings 1-2 - Psalm 37 - Psalm 71 - Psalm 94

Week 22, Day 3 --- Psalm 119:1-88

Week 22, Day 4 --- 2 Chronicles 1 - 1 Kings 3-4 - Psalm 72

Week 22, Day 5 --- Psalm 119:89-176

Week 22, Day 6 --- Song of Solomon 1-8

Week 22, Day 7 --- Proverbs 1-3

Week 22, Day 1 --- Psalm 111-118

The psalms can be hard to read because they were never intended to be read like this. They are songs to be sung over and over. They are prayers to be said with deep emotion. There are a couple of phrases in these psalms that I think are really important.

^{111:10} The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.

If you really want to know the best thing to do you must begin by recognizing that God is in charge and that He has the power to back up His authority.

^{117:2} For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Fearing God is a good thing, but it is even better when we recognize that His power is good because of His constant love that never fails.

^{118:29} Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

It is often difficult to be grateful. Our circumstances are often not what we'd like them to be. Our circumstances vary, but God never does. He is always good and He always loves.

Week 22, Day 2 --- 1 Kings 1-2 - Psalm 37 - Psalm 71 - Psalm 94

Week 22, Day 3 --- Psalm 119:1-88

From the footnote in the New Living Translation: This psalm is a Hebrew acrostic poem; there are twenty-two stanzas, one for each successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Each of the eight verses within each stanza begins with the Hebrew letter named in its heading.

The result of this acrostic is the longest chapter in the Bible. The reading will be broken into two days. There is much repetition, and I hope you come away with a clear understanding of how important God's

Word is. Look for a new way of describing God's Word or a new way of stating its importance in each section.

Week 22, Day 4 --- 2 Chronicles 1 - 1 Kings 3-4 - Psalm 72

What do you say about Solomon. He is the wisest man who ever lived other than Jesus and yet he often seems to be the most foolish man who ever lived. He begins so well.

It is hard to imagine a more wonderful time than the reign of Solomon in Israel. Israel was the most powerful nation on earth and Solomon is one of the wealthiest men ever. At the beginning of his reign he possesses a humility that motivates him to ask for wisdom to rule his people well. This time really defines the Hebrew word shalom that we translate as peace. There was certainly an absence of war, but there was also a genuine time of prosperity for everyone in Israel.

- Why do you think Solomon asked for wisdom instead of wealth and power?
- If God were to grant you one request what would you ask for?

Week 22, Day 5 --- Psalm 119:89-176

Week 22, Day 6 --- Song of Solomon 1-8

^{3;5} I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
by the gazelles or the does of the field,
that you not stir up or awaken love
until it pleases.

I expect that you'll be surprised to find something like this in the Bible. Young Jewish boys were forbidden to read this book. There are two primary messages in this book. One is very clear and that is that God created sex and it is to be enjoyed to the fullest. Romantic love is not a creation of Hollywood. It is a creation of God. The other message is less clear, but is captured in the verse above that is repeated several times during the book. God designed sex for a committed relationship. We call that relationship marriage. I now our world considers that old-fashioned, but that is God's design. I hope you can see in this book that God intended sex for pleasure. The same God who inspired the book of Leviticus also inspired the Song of Solomon.

Week 22, Day 7 --- Proverbs 1-3

At this point you may decide to slow down your reading. There is much to think about in every verse of Proverbs. You will soon learn that Solomon did not apply what he taught and that is a common error of teachers. However, the things he taught are from God and are a practical guide to life. This is one of the most practical books in the entire Bible. How would your life be different if you had known and applied just what you've read so far? We haven't talked about memorizing scripture. Getting some verses inside your head to carry with you everywhere is a very good thing and a good place to begin would be to learn Proverbs 3:5,6.