

WEEK EIGHT

Check Point Per Day:

_ Day 1 Numbers 35 - 36	LUKE 1 - 2
_ Day 2 DEUTERONOMY 1 - 3	Luke 3
_ Day 3 Deuteronomy 4 - 7	
_ Day 4 Deuteronomy 8 - 10	Luke 4
_ Day 5 Deuteronomy 11 - 13	Luke 5
_ Day 6 Deuteronomy 14 - 16	Luke 6
_ Day 7 Deuteronomy 17 - 19	Luke 7

REFLECTIONS

There are many places in America that people can stop and remember back over their lives. When you have had a long trip, it is good to find these places of rest and reassurance. Deuteronomy is a book of remembering for the Israelites before they cross over the Jordan River to take Canaan. Moses will repeat everything that is necessary for them to keep God in sight.

Deuteronomy shows that obedience is number one with God. In chapter 6:4-12, Moses will remind them of the importance of remembering God's word and how to remember it. Each and everything that they taught them was to remind them of God. Even the names of the months were of great value, they would remind them of the different events that God had brought them through. How much scripture should we have in the open in our homes today to remind us of the presence of God?

Luke is a gospel that shows much grace to all. It also brings out the many prayers during the life of Jesus. Theophilus is the person that Luke, the physician, writes to. Gentiles are the main targets of the book. Luke gives close attention to the life of Jesus and brings out much of the early life of Jesus.

Jesus would state His purpose for His ministry from the beginning: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, Luke 4:18." He reads from Isaiah. Luke's gospel has its own special way of bringing the life of Jesus to open freshness just as the other gospels do. The gospels repeat many events of Jesus. This goes along with the first five books of the O.T. in the fact that these are events to keep on remembering. They are to keep reminding us of the greatness of our Lord God.

QUESTIONS

Take a walk in the Peace Gardens for a moment to find peace that can only come from a walk with Jesus.

1. Read Deut.3:25. Moses told the children he asked God to let him go over and see the good land. What kept him from doing so?
2. Also, from the same chapter v.27 Moses was allowed to do what?
3. Chapter 4:2 and 12:32 coincides with Rev.22:18-19 in what way?
4. Being obedient to the Lord is very important. In 4:40 how were the children told to pay attention?
5. Moses reminds the children that he made intercessory prayer for them in chapter 9:18. Can we still do the same today as God's people?
6. God cares for those who have no hope, and God holds people who do have hope responsible for these people. How should we respond today to the widow, fatherless, and stranger? Why were they not to forsake the Levites (12:19)?
7. How does Luke 3:14 speak to us today?
8. Why is it that the book Matthew names Solomon and the book Luke names Nathan in genealogy?
9. Who is it that Jesus sits and eats with the most?

WEEK NINE

Check Point Per Day:

_ Day 1 Deuteronomy 20 - 22	Luke 8
_ Day 2 Deuteronomy 23 - 25	Luke 9
_ Day 3 Deuteronomy 26 - 28	Luke 10
_ Day 4 Deuteronomy 29 - 31	Luke 11
_ Day 5 Deuteronomy 32 - 34	Luke 12
_ Day 6 JOSHUA 1 - 4	
_ Day 7 Joshua 5 - 7	Luke 13

REFLECTIONS

"If we could only keep up with the things God told the Israelites to do," is a statement I once heard. We are to keep up with what Christ tells us to do. If we cannot even keep up with Christ's teachings, how could we do the other? There are good rules in Deuteronomy that can help us understand how we should behave. We must read them considering Jesus' teachings. Most people are already in trouble, Deut. 22:5-12.

Deuteronomy 24:5 is another verse I wish people could live by today. More than likely it would stop many problems that may come along later in a marriage. The time we live in tends not to permit this type of beginning. We have become too attached to the world to be as free as we need to be for the betterment of God in our lives as Christians.

Chapter 29:6 is one reason God's people should not drink strong drinks. When people use the Bible and take verses out of context, they think they can justify about anything. We are to remain in a state where we know what is going on around us and can remember it. The main reason for being so is that we might know the Lord.

We say goodbye to Moses and see a new leader anointed, "Who be he?" _____ Before leaving Deuteronomy read again 32:1-4.

I feel that my trip has just left a beloved friend's home and now I'm to make friends with someone I have heard about. We have traveled a good little piece now and the ride was very enjoyable and rewarding. As I continue to travel on and around, I continue to see new sights and learn new things. Wise is the person who discovers the saying, "The more I learn, the less I know."

QUESTIONS

1. What parable is in Luke 8:4-15? _____ What do the four different seeds represent?
2. In the same chapter is a man who is demon-possessed. What is your belief about demons today? Be ready to give a brief answer.
3. Is doing spiritual work hard (Lu. 9:10)? Expound upon any answer given.
4. What mountain was Jesus on in chapter 9:28-ff?
5. Who appeared, and what was the symbolism behind what they represented?
6. There is one thing that is needful according to Jesus in 10:42; what is it?
7. Where are you on your vacation (name a place)?



WEEK TEN

Check Point Per Day:

_ Day 1 Joshua 8 - 10	Luke 14
_ Day 2 Joshua 11 - 13	Luke 15
_ Day 3 Joshua 14 - 16	Luke 16
_ Day 4 Joshua 17 - 20	
_ Day 5 Joshua 21 - 23	Luke 17
_ Day 6 Joshua 24 - JUDGES 2	Luke 18
_ Day 7 Judges 3 - 5	Luke 19

REFLECTIONS

What is the cost of being a follower of Christ? What would be your answer?

Two lines should not be enough. Now read Luke 14:25-35. Do you feel complete in what Jesus has said?

Luke 15 is a chapter of parables on the lost being found. Remember that Jesus came to "seek that which was lost." Now, as you read these verses, place the Jews and Gentiles in their respective places. Do you find yourself as the lost sheep that Jesus left the ninety-nine to go look for and found you? If so, then also see yourself causing great rejoicing going on in heaven. Now take a close look at the prodigal son. As a people that had no hope before Christ came, can we not see how our Father has hired servants, and we have filled our lives with husks. Is it not truly time to return to the Father and seek His everlasting forgiveness?

Have you ever felt that you were not doing all you should as a Christian? Luke 16 will help if read carefully. But not only this chapter but the rest of this week's reading will or should verify what is lacking, if anything, in your Christian walk. Many will never reach their full potential as a Christian because of an old problem, perfectionism. "If I can't do it all right, then I will not do any." Never assume that a person will reach perfection while on this earth. What would be left for heaven? We are to do our best, and God will take care of the rest.

What a vacation. God really does love us and wants us to know Him. Often, a family vacation is needed to reconnect with each other. By seeking God and believing in Christ for salvation, we become a part of the *Family of God*. Where are you in respect to traveling across the nation or around the world? Remember to sing a victory song as you go along.

QUESTIONS

1. The Israelites meet some people from Gibeon in Joshua 9. What is the real mistake they make with these people (9:14b)?
2. While reading Joshua 10:13, reflect upon how many times the Son has stood still while a battle was going on for you.
3. We found out more about Balaam in Joshua 13:22. What is it that we find out?
4. What are the people reminded of in chapter 14:9? And is it good to remind ourselves of what God has promised?
5. What one question would you ask Joshua 15:16-19?
6. Do the children obey God's word in all that He tells them to do (Jos.15:63; 17:13)? Explain, please.
7. How many cities are given to the Levites of the other tribes (Jos. 21)?
8. Serving the Lord is not easy, according to Joshua 24:19. What is it that people need to do before they can begin to do so (24:23)? (Notice verse thirty-two also for one reason.)
9. Judges is rightly named. It would take many judges for the people to keep following God rightly. What one thing would they do when they leave without a judge to guide them (Judges 2:11)?

WEEK ELEVEN

_ Day 1 Judges 6 - 8	Luke 20
_ Day 2 Judges 9 - 11	Luke 21
_ Day 3 Judges 12 - 14	Luke 22
_ Day 4 Judges 15 - 17	Luke 23
_ Day 5 Judges 18 - 20	Luke 24
_ Day 6 Judges 21 - RUTH 4	
_ Day 7 1 SAMUEL 1 - 3	JOHN 1

REFLECTIONS

The wonder of God's word should fill the Christian's heart to the point of great excitement. Excitement is what happens as people get high hopes. What hope? Hope to discover your faith in areas that you have not seen before. The Bible can do that for people when they do not give up on God and a lifestyle that exemplifies a life in Christ.

While reading in Judges, keep a watchful eye for road signs that lead nowhere. These road signs will say things like "And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord." These are particularly good times to see what road signs we are following in our own lives. If by any chance we are going down the wrong road, then keep on reading to see what needs to be done. Turn around and seek forgiveness and follow the Lord. Jesus will be there and hear our prayers.

It amazes me to see how easy turning is for the Israelites until I go look into a mirror. All people have the same little things that can easily turn their heads if we take our eyes off God, even for a split second.

When people continue to keep themselves in the company of the wicked, they will find their souls vexed more easily with each new day (Judges 16:16). It was the same case with Lot. Had these people left the places they were in, they would not have suffered what they did. Before we get too judgmental of these two, we need to look at our own souls. We need to see how vexed it may be and why. "We all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23)." It is by grace that everyone is ever saved. Should we not seek to do what is right in God's sight and not our own (Judges 17:6)?

Continue reading and comparing the Old and New Testaments. In doing so, a person will finally see that there is no difference between the two but that each supports the other very strongly. In such a case, one can find verses like Judges 20:12-13 to compare to 1 Corinthians 5. From Judges 19:1 to Ruth 1:1, you can find people related by area. Ruth may be a short book, but it gives clear directions between Judges and Samuel.

Questions

1. What secret did the angel keep when talking to the parents of Samson (13:18)?
2. Describe the miracle talked about in Judges 15:18-20.
3. God still used Samson to defeat the Philistines, but for Samson what was the price (16:30)?
4. These three books of the Old Testament show the purpose of people's life from birth. Name at least two of the people.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
5. This one may require deeper study. Jabesh-Gilead is an important city to the Israelites because of two events that happened there. Describe the events that will show up in next week's lesson.
6. In Luke 21:36, there is a prayer of promise that Christ gives His followers. What kind of promise is it?
7. Upon your decision, were the disciples full believers before the death of Christ? (Use Luke 22:32 to base your answer.)
8. It takes all four gospels to describe the crucifixion. What event or part is left out in Luke (*hint! about the head*)?
9. There is only one way to understand the Bible. How do people get that understanding (Luke 24:45)?
10. From John 1; Who was in the beginning?

WEEK TWELVE

_ Day 1 1 Samuel 4 - 6	John 2
_ Day 2 1 Samuel 7 - 9	John 3
_ Day 3 1 Samuel 10 - 12	John 4
_ Day 4 1 Samuel 13 - 16	
_ Day 5 1 Samuel 17 - 19	John 5
_ Day 6 1 Samuel 20 - 22	John 6
_ Day 7 1 Samuel 23 - 25	John 7

REFLECTIONS

Each new day should bring new excitement. We should look forward to all the new things we have not seen before. When you travel into a new area that you have never seen before, do you not search carefully so that you miss nothing? Yet if you are traveling somewhere, you have been, have you not, yet found something new that you missed before? It really is not a riddle to solve. It is a trip into God's word for the believer.

Samuel's life would be to fulfill God's word to God's people. From a child, Samuel's mother never broke her commitment. She had not promised, but made a commitment, that Samuel would always be the Lord's. Samuel would dwell with Eli for a few years before God called to him one night. God does call Samuel, and at first, Samuel does not recognize the call as from God. With Eli's help, Samuel receives his call. Many disappointments would come into Samuel's life during his ministry. If you feel you have not followed the Lord as you should or have not understood it, then now is the time to step into the path Christ would have you take.

"And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground (1 Sam 3:19)." Christians need to grow in the love, wisdom, and redeeming quality of Christ our Lord. Their word is to remain consecrated. When we let the word of God down, our words fall to the ground. Now take a guess as to what happens to things lying on the ground. That is right, it gets trampled on.

Now let's turn our attention to what the people do next. *"And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations (1 Sam 8:5)." Why is it that we seem to have to have a visual sight before we think we can do what God would will us to? A lack of faith may be the problem. Well faith comes by hearing the word of God. Listen closely to God's Word and see your faith grow. May God keep blessing your travels in your delightful trip of His word.*

Questions

1. Who is rejected in 1 Sam.8:7?
2. When God calls a person to do His work, he gives Him what the person needs. Saul received something, as we should when we receive Christ as our savior. What is it (1 Sam. 10:9)?
3. What kind of sign is Jonathan waiting for in 1 Sam. 14:6-10?
4. Find a good definition for the term "son/daughter of Belial."
5. John the Baptist makes a statement about our dependency upon God in John 3:27. What is it? And what is your opinion of it?
6. Fact: By the time that Jesus was born, the Jews had constructed 1,521 laws to follow.
7. Memorizing is not easy for some. Yet if you have not memorized John 3:16 and 17, now is the time. Use the space remaining to do so.

WEEK THIRTEEN

_ Day 1 1 Samuel 26 - 28	John 8
_ Day 2 1 Samuel 29 - 31	John 9
_ Day 3 2 Samuel 1 - 3	John 10
_ Day 4 2 Samuel 4 - 7	
_ Day 5 2 Samuel 8 - 10	John 11
_ Day 6 2 Samuel 11 - 13	John 12
_ Day 7 2 Samuel 14 - 16	John 13

REFLECTIONS

Is it wrong to use horoscopes, tarot cards, psychics, etc.? Saul knew it was wrong, and he still sought a woman with a familiar spirit (1 Sam. 28:7). God's people are to depend on God's word alone, even when He is not there. The only answer he got was no more comforting than the one he already had. A Christian who thinks it is all right to dabble in these things needs to draw close to the Lord.

Admire the humbleness of David. His enemy sought his life, and he returned good for evil. I hope that people (you) continue to seek out what it means to be *after God's own heart*. It is not an answer that one can receive except it comes to them from the Lord. Jesus, in all that He taught and teaches today, shows us His love, but in John's writing, it is easier to read of the love of Christ. It is to love your enemy, do good to those who seek your life, and to love more than this world ever can. Remember to keep life very precious in all that you do; this is most important.

I'm sure you have already seen that the book of John focuses more on the last days of Christ than the other three. His book details a part of Christ's life that we need in ours. John's gospel is more of the love that Christ would have us express. Really, it's not any more than the others, but it is easier to read the love of Christ in John's writing.

Now, on a short personal note from the writer of these lesson guides. I love teaching the Bible to all who would hear what God's word says to them. Many will not take time to read the reflections or look up such simple questions. This is not the purpose of the weekly study. The full purpose is to get people reading the Bible and to see how easy it is to read at least once a year. It is to lead themselves to the point to be self-motivated, to the point that one will need no outside help to keep up with a regulated Bible study themselves.

If we, as Christians, do not start depending more upon the word in our daily lives, we will cease to be *Christ like*. Please join me in prayer that we all return to God's word as His believing Children.

Questions

1. 1 Samuel 31:11 What people showed a good side? Now, remember Judges 21:8. Things can turn around for the good.
2. Are questions important when studying the Bible, Individual study, and group study? Any reasons why?
3. In 2 Sam. 6, David tried to move the ark once and could not, and yet the next time he could. What made the difference?
4. Who was Mephibosheth, and what happened to him as a child?
5. Phew! I began to wonder if I would ever find all that one. Now, back to the significant part. David commits two sins in 2 Sam. 11. What are they?
6. In John 8:15 Jesus gives us the secret of true love. What is it?
7. Jesus came for a purpose (John 10:10). Describe that purpose.