

Bible Reading Together during this Covid-19 Shutdown

February 28-March 6: Read 1 Samuel 17, Psalm 19 & Gospel of Mark 15

1 Samuel 17

This is the famous story of David and Goliath. Read the story in full – from the initial conflict and the inability of the Israel's army to do anything, and the coming of little boy David to become the champion of the Israelites.

Further Study & Discussion

- First of all, think about all the adult soldiers who stood by and watched King Saul send a little boy to face the giant Goliath. Were they people of faith, or simply biggest of cowards? And what about King Saul?
- What caused David to volunteer his services? Identify the several reasons for his boldness.
- King Saul offered his armor and sword to David, but David rejected them for his sling and stones. What is a life lesson we can glean from this?

Psalm 19

This psalm begins, "The heavens declare the glory of God!" God's glory is God's presence revealed. And that is found in Creation (vv.1-6), Bible (vv.7-10), and our Sins (vv.11-14).

Further Study & Discussion

- Talk about a time you found God's glory in creation?
- How does the Bible reveal God's glory?
- In our sins, we recognize who God is. God alone is pure and holy. And rather than punishing us as we deserve, there is mercy and grace, forgiveness and love. Talk about a time when we deserved to be punished, but we felt God's mercy and love.

Mark 15

From Matthew 26, we turn to Mark's account of Jesus' crucifixion and death.

Further Study & Discussion

- The irony of Barabbas versus Jesus is that Barabbas was actually a convicted criminal, but he was set free because of Jesus. How is that a symbol of our salvation found in Jesus' death?
- Read v.16-20 again. Imagine the scene and Christ's suffering. He's the only innocent one and yet he is beaten.
- In v.39, one of the Roman soldiers made a remarkable statement, "Truly this man was God's Son!" Why do you think he said that?