



Through the Bible in a Year

a chronological study of the Bible for women

Week 21

1 Sam. 22-24
1 Chron. 21-29
Ps. 30,57,95,97-99,108-118,
127, 131, 138-139, 143-
145

Daily Reading Plan:

__ 2 Sam. 22-23
Ps. 57,95,97-99
__ 2 Sam. 24
__ 1 Chron. 21-22
__ 1 Chron. 23-25
__ Ps.131,138-139,143-145
__ 1 Chron. 26-29
Ps.127
__ Ps.111-118
__ REST*

*Use this day to meditate on the week's Scripture reading. If needed, use it to catch up or read ahead.

Next week:

1 Kings 1-4
2 Chron. 1
Song of Songs
Ps.37,71,72,94,119

MEMORY VERSE:

"...acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the Lord searches every heart and understands every motive behind the thoughts. If you seek him, he will be found by you; but if you forsake him, he will reject you forever.
1 Chron. 28:9

POURED OUT

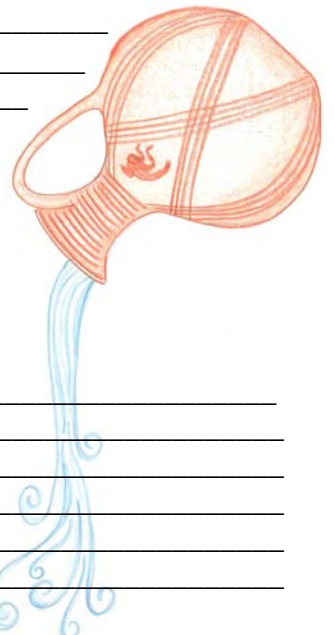
So the three mighty men broke through the Philistine lines, drew water from the well near the gate of Bethlehem and carried it back to David. But he refused to drink it; instead, he poured it out before the Lord. 2 Samuel 23:16

David didn't just pour out the water; he poured it out before the Lord. There are lots of "pouring outs" in Scripture. Water poured out can't be collected back in. What was the situation in each of these?

- Gen. 35:19 _____
- 1 Sam. 7:6 _____
- Psalm 22:14 _____
- Prov. 1:23 _____
- John 12:1-8 _____
- Philippians 2:17 _____

How does this relate to why David poured out the water his men had brought to him? _____

In what ways do we pour ourselves out like Paul? _____



THE CENSUS 2 Sam. 24 and 1 Chron.21

Who does 2 Sam. 24:1 say incited David to take a census?

Who does 1 Chron. 21:1 say incited David to take a census?

Why the difference? What is Scripture saying to us here? Why would God incite David to do something that he would be punished for? What was the big deal about taking a census? Perhaps there is more to the story than meets the eye.

How had David's heart been handling his power and success? What temptations come with being a king? Did God know that in David's heart he was edging toward a pride and reliance in his own strength in numbers instead of his strength in God?

Humility is an essential attitude in a good leader, and maybe God saw that David's humility was waning. Left unchecked, a growing pride could lead to disaster for the whole nation of Israel. How could David be made aware of his heart condition? Maybe

God incited David to take a census simply by allowing Satan to have his way with David just a little longer, so that David could see and understand the condition of his heart. Maybe God turned David over to Satan's whims much like we allow our children room to fail so that they can learn to be stronger when the bigger stuff comes along. I'm so glad that we can trust God to do that for us. I'm so glad that God is so powerful that the most evil plans of Satan can be turned into God's tool for our benefit.

Elaine Denman, at the 2007 Women Walking with God conference, said "God does not save us **from** things, He saves us **in** things." I would take that a bit further and say that not only is God saving us in things, but He is also saving us **to** things and **for** things. He isn't always quick to pull us out of hot water, because He is the one that allowed us to fall in. Maybe a little heat now is just what we need to avoid the fire later.

David was quick to recognize and confess his sin, and turn from it, as God knew he would be. David's reliance on God was renewed, even as he was choosing his punishment.

What three choices of punishment did God give to David?

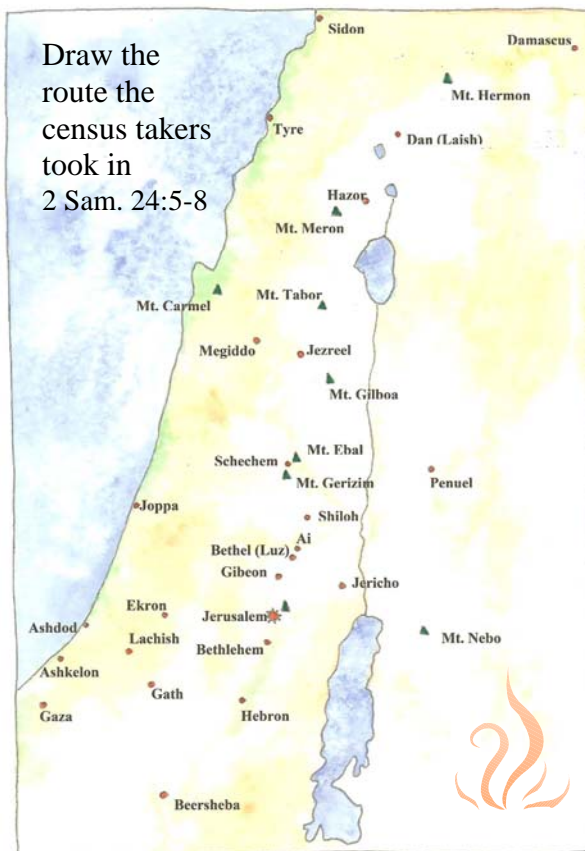
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Which did David choose and why? _____

At times, I have imitated God's parenting of David by giving my children a choice of consequences. Why do you think God dealt with David in that way? _____

When are some times you have sinned against God? _____

Looking back, did any of those experiences ultimately revive a slipping relationship with God?



Draw the route the census takers took in 2 Sam. 24:5-8

DAVID'S SUPPORT TEAM

David was a leader. As king of Israel, he had a whole nation of followers. Some stuck with him only when times were good. Others hung in there through thick and thin. Some were willing to risk their lives just to get him a drink of water. Followers are essential. You can't lead if there aren't those who will follow.

But neither can a leader get along for long without a support team. In David's case it was a large one.

Name three prophets who played a key role in David's life, and note what they did:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Having spiritual advisors in our life is crucial. They anoint us as God's chosen ones by reminding us whose we are, what we have to offer Him and the importance of living faithfully. They love us enough and have courage enough to draw our wrongs to our attention. They stand behind us to support our repentance and guide us to and through restoration. David needed these kind of godly people in his life to help him be all that God meant for him to be. So do we.

Name three spiritual advisors/mentors that you have had in your life that you trusted to speak God's word to you:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Do you have someone that does that for you right now?

Who are you filling that role for? _____

Not only did David have prophets, he also had friends. In fact, David's friendship with Jonathan is one of the most well known there has ever been. There were other friends for David as well. In 1 Chron. 27 we find a list of David's officials. There were men in charge of the olive oil, the sheep, the watchtowers, the camels and the vineyards. There is Jonathan (a different one) and Ahithopel who were his counselors. There was Jehiel, the man in charge of his sons. And finally, in verse 33 we find Hushai the Arkite.

What important position did Hushai hold? _____

Do you think there is any connection between David's success and the strength of his support team? _____

THE THRESHING FLOOR

1 Sam. 24 and 1 Chron. 21

What happened when the angel of God began to destroy Jerusalem with plague?

What did David suggest to God?

What did God instruct David to do?

Where did all of this take place?

What did Araunah offer David?

Why did David refuse? _____

This is the same location (Mt. Moriah) that Abraham was willing to sacrifice his son Isaac, but stopped at the last moment by God. In gratitude, Abraham made an offering to God at this same location.

What kind of costly sacrifice is required of us today? _____

What was the price of the threshing floor in 2 Sam. 24:24? _____

What is the price for the site in 1 Chron. 21:25? _____

Why the discrepancy? _____

We are later (2 Chron. 3:1) told that this would be the site on which Solomon would build the temple. Today it is the location of the Muslim mosque, the Dome of the Rock. On the edge of the Temple Mount the Western Wall still stands, also known as the Wailing Wall where Jews still go to offer their prayers, written on notes, folded and inserted in crevices. (Beers. 130)



GAD

We met Gad, the prophet, briefly in 1 Sam. 22:5 when he advised David to run to the forest of Hereth. Now he appears again to speak God's word to David regarding the punishment for the census. 1 Chron. 29:29 indicates that like Samuel and Nathan, he wrote a record of the events of David's reign.

WHAT IS YOUR VISION?

What are you so committed to, so passionate about, that you would live out the rest of your days preparing for even knowing that you would not be able to see it come to pass?

Who does David say wrote the plans for the temple?
(1 Chron. 28:19) _____

What part did David play in the building of the temple?

LAST WORDS 1 Chron. 28:9,10

What would your last words of advice or instruction be for your child, or anyone that you held a position of influence with? If I was giving my very last instructions to my child, would it be to pick up their clothes, or be sure and brush their teeth? If I left them without warning, would they know without a doubt what the very most important things that I wanted to teach them were? I would do well to follow David's example every day and not wait until I am on my deathbed. Maybe I should write letters for them to read in the event of my death. Maybe these should be things that I teach them as I walk along the road, when I lay down, when I get up, every chance I get.

David instructed Solomon to:

- Acknowledge God
- Serve God
- Be wholeheartedly devoted to God
- Seek God
- Be strong
- Do the work that God has for you to do

What are some practical ways we can pass that on to others? _____

What vision do you have for the future of your family? _____

What vision do you have for the future of your church? _____

What did David request of God in his prayer in 1 Chron. 29:10-19? _____

WANT TO READ WHAT I READ?

THE THRESHING FLOOR p.3

Beers, V. Gilbert. "Araunah's Threshing Floor." The Victor Journey Through the Bible. 1996.

PASSING THE BATON p. 4

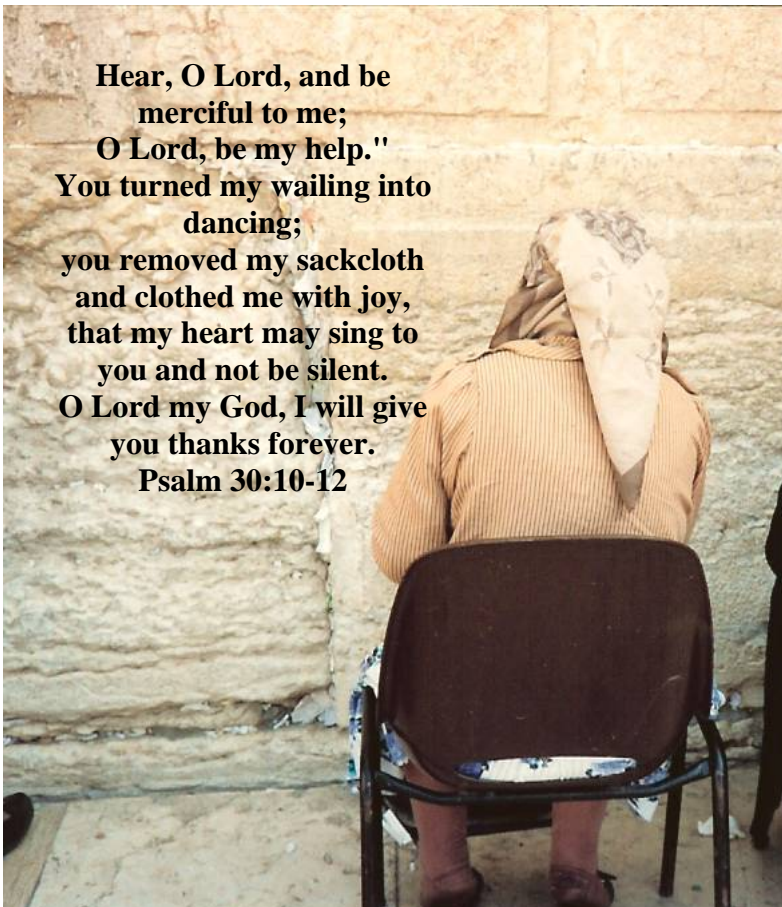
Lewis, C.S.. The Four Loves. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1960.

PASSING THE BATON

"...the proper aim of giving is to put the recipient in a state where he no longer needs our gift. We feed children in order that they may soon be able to feed themselves; we teach them in order that they may soon not need our teaching. Thus a heavy task is laid upon this Gift-love. It must work towards its own abdication. We must aim at making ourselves superfluous. The hour when we can say 'They need me no longer' should be our reward."
(Lewis 76)

Are we doing this in our church family as well?

Hear, O Lord, and be merciful to me;
 O Lord, be my help."
 You turned my wailing into dancing;
 you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
 that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.
 O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.
 Psalm 30:10-12



Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
 let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
 Let us come before him with thanksgiving
 and extol him with music and song.
 For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.
 In his hand are the depths of the earth,
 and the mountain peaks belong to him.
 The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.
 Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
 for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture,
 the flock under his care.
 Psalm 95:1-7

WEEK 20 PUZZLE ANSWERS



Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn-- shout for joy before the Lord, the King.
 Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy; let them sing before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.
 Psalm 98:4-9



For comments or questions, contact me at victoryrd@hotmail.com
 or for more studies visit www.downvictoryrd.com

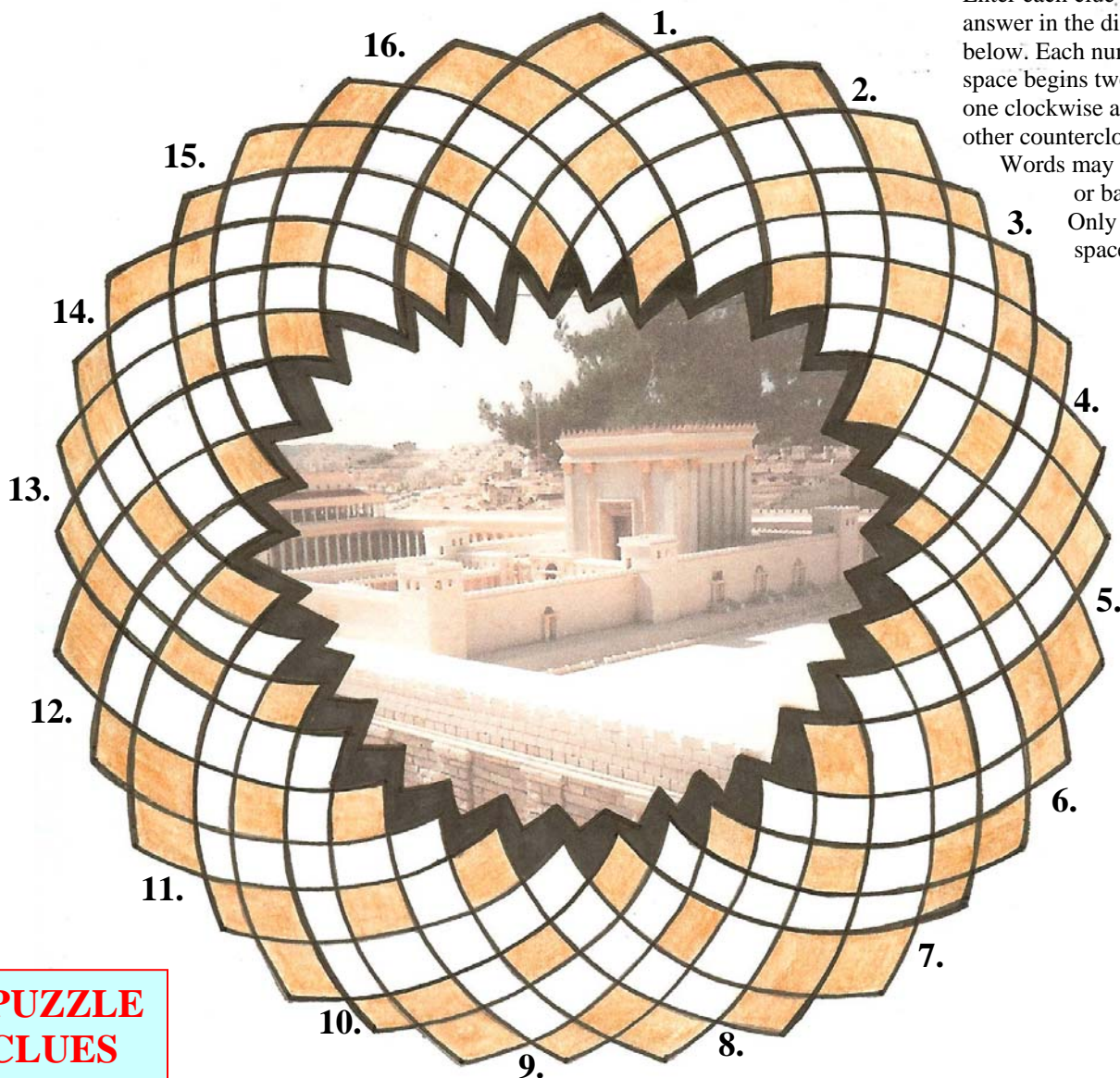
PUZZLE PAGE

PETAL PUZZLE 1 Chron. 21-29

Enter each clue's 5 letter answer in the diagram below. Each numbered space begins two answers, one clockwise and the other counterclockwise.

Words may go forward or backward.

3. Only the white spaces are used.



PUZZLE CLUES

CLOCKWISE

1. brother of Moses 23:13
2. edge
3. to serve soup
4. had fourteen sons 25:5
5. Levites _____ at the temple 23:31
6. Now _____ the work 22:16
7. Zaccur had the _____ lot for duty 25:10
8. David made preparations before his _____ 22:5

9. "I will _____ Israel peace" 22:9

10. blood shed in God's _____ 22:8
11. amount of iron 22:3
12. instrument 25:1
13. Israel this numerous 27:23
14. David planned God's _____ 22:2
15. David _____ build the temple
16. in charge of olive oil _____ 27:28

COUNTERCLOCKWISE

1. set _____ 23:13
2. gatekeepers descendants of 26:19
3. sound
4. Aaron's son 24:1
5. made of gold or silver 28:15
6. son of Shimei 23:9
7. heads of families from Ithamar 24:4
8. Solomon charged to 22:6
9. _____ alongside guard 26:16

10. David had it in his _____ 22:7
 11. _____ hundred thousand in Israel 2 Sam. 24:9
 12. employs
 13. instrument 25:1
 14. extra
 15. noise
 16. Elihu was officer of this tribe 27:18
- (clues taken from NIV translation)