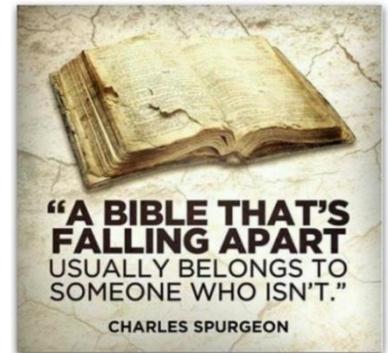




Beaches Baptist Church

May 6-12, 2019



A WORD for the Journey

These are short daily Bible readings that have been chosen to reinforce a particular teaching that is important to help us live successfully as disciples of Jesus. They can be used individually, with your spouse, friend or used as family readings. Each week's readings correspond to the previous Sunday's sermon preached at Beaches Baptist Church. You can download the sermon from <https://beachesbaptist.com/> . If you would like to receive these readings via email, please email me on beachesbaptist@gmail.com with "A Word for the Journey" in the subject title.

FINDING IN GOD THAT QUIET PLACE

This week at Beaches Baptist we have the pleasure of enjoying the ministry of Brad Huddleston. Brad has a world-wide ministry in which he is trying to bring awareness to the psycho-socio-emotional and moral issues which plague us through digital addiction. For a taste of his ministry see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YsugeAi5xJI> . Satan has done a very good job over the last 70 years, firstly through television and since then through a plethora of other media, to drown out the voice of God. This week take some time to read these passages and be still and know that God is God.

Monday

Psalm 46 (NLT)

God is our refuge and strength,

always ready to help in times of trouble.

² So we will not fear when earthquakes come
and the mountains crumble into the sea.

³ Let the oceans roar and foam.

Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge! *Interlude*

⁴ A river brings joy to the city of our God,
the sacred home of the Most High.

⁵ God dwells in that city; it cannot be destroyed.
From the very break of day, God will protect it.

⁶ The nations are in chaos,
and their kingdoms crumble!

God's voice thunders,
and the earth melts!

⁷ The Lord of Heaven's Armies is here among us;
the God of Israel is our fortress. *Interlude*

⁸ Come, see the glorious works of the Lord:

See how he brings destruction upon the world.

⁹ He causes wars to end throughout the earth.

He breaks the bow and snaps the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰ “Be still, and know that I am God!

I will be honoured by every nation.

I will be honoured throughout the world.”

¹¹ The Lord of Heaven’s Armies is here among us;
the God of Israel is our fortress. *Interlude*

Reflect: Take time to be still and reflect on the awesomeness of God. He has a wonderful way of putting everything into perspective.

Tuesday

Exodus 33:7-11 (MSG)

⁷⁻¹⁰ Moses used to take the Tent and set it up outside the camp, some distance away. He called it the Tent of Meeting. Anyone who sought God would go to the Tent of Meeting outside the camp. It went like this: When Moses would go to the Tent, all the people would stand at attention; each man would take his position at the entrance to his tent with his eyes on Moses until he entered the Tent; whenever Moses entered the Tent, the Pillar of Cloud descended to the entrance to the Tent and God spoke with Moses. All the people would see the Pillar of Cloud at the entrance to the Tent, stand at attention, and then bow down in worship, each man at the entrance to his tent.

¹¹ And God spoke with Moses face-to-face, as neighbours speak to one another. When he would return to the camp, his attendant, the young man Joshua, stayed—he didn’t leave the Tent.

Reflect: Notice how Moses set-up the tent outside the camp. Our meeting place with God should be away from the noise- away from the rabble- away from distractions. Joshua also was hungry for this time for God. Is my habitual meeting with God such that it influences those closest to me to want the same rich experience?

Wednesday

Exodus 34:29-35 (MSG)

²⁹⁻³⁰ When Moses came down from Mount Sinai carrying the two Tablets of The Testimony, he didn’t know that the skin of his face glowed because he had been speaking with God. Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, saw his radiant face, and held back, afraid to get close to him.

³¹⁻³² Moses called out to them. Aaron and the leaders in the community came back and Moses talked with them. Later all the Israelites came up to him and he passed on the commands, everything that God had told him on Mount Sinai.

³³⁻³⁵ When Moses finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face, but when he went into the presence of God to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. When he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, they would see Moses’ face, its skin glowing, and then he would again put the veil on his face until he went back in to speak with God.

Reflect: May our prayer be, “Lord, may the time I spend with you become noticeable in my face. May my time with you change me in such a way that others will seek more of you also.”

Thursday

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (MSG)

¹⁻³ The boy Samuel was serving God under Eli’s direction. This was at a time when the revelation of God was rarely heard or seen. One night Eli was sound asleep (his eyesight was very bad—he could hardly see). It was well before dawn; the sanctuary lamp was still burning. Samuel was still in bed in the Temple of God, where the Chest of God rested.

⁴⁻⁵ Then God called out, “Samuel, Samuel!”

Samuel answered, “Yes? I’m here.” Then he ran to Eli saying, “I heard you call. Here I am.”

Eli said, “I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” And so he did.

⁶⁻⁷ God called again, “Samuel, Samuel!”

Samuel got up and went to Eli, “I heard you call. Here I am.”

Again Eli said, “Son, I didn’t call you. Go back to bed.” (This all happened before Samuel knew God for himself. It was before the revelation of God had been given to him personally.)

⁸⁻⁹ God called again, “Samuel!”—the third time! Yet again Samuel got up and went to Eli, “Yes? I heard you call me. Here I am.”

That’s when it dawned on Eli that God was calling the boy. So Eli directed Samuel, “Go back and lie down. If the voice calls again, say, ‘Speak, God. I’m your servant, ready to listen.’” Samuel returned to his bed.

¹⁰ Then God came and stood before him exactly as before, calling out, “Samuel! Samuel!”

Samuel answered, “Speak. I’m your servant, ready to listen.”

Reflect: Have I an ear for God’s voice? Do I stop and be still long enough to hear it? Am I ready to do God’s will- whatever he asks me to do?

Friday

Psalm 1 (NIV)

Blessed is the one

who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,

² but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
and who meditates on his law day and night.

³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.

⁴ Not so the wicked!
They are like chaff
that the wind blows away.

⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

⁶ For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

Reflect: The one who walks in the way of the Lord has freed up their mind to meditate on his word.

Saturday

Psalm 27:4-8 (ESV)

One thing have I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to inquire in his temple.

⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high upon a rock.

⁶And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

⁷Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!

⁸You have said, "Seek my face."
My heart says to you,
"Your face, Lord, do I seek."

Reflect: The Psalmist made seeking God's face his number one priority. Do I?

Sunday

Mark 1:32-35 (ESV)

³²That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons.³³And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.

Reflect: Even though the previous day Jesus had spent a full day teaching, healing and casting out demons which stretched into the evening hours, Jesus rose before sunrise the next morning to spend alone with his father. What does this say about the importance of spending that alone, quiet time with God?