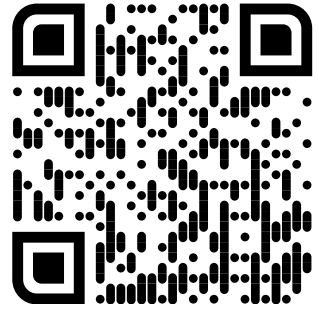


Imago Dei Church Bible Reading Plan



As a church, we are taking 2024 to dig deeper into books of the Bible, slowly reading them over the course of a month. Each month, you'll get a handout like this with background info and a breakdown of the book, along with example questions to help you study the Bible deeper.

1 Samuel

May

● **Historical Context** —————

Who wrote this book? Unknown.

When was it written? King David reigned until 971 B.C. and it was most likely written shortly after his reign.

To whom was it written? The Israelites.

Why was it written? The purpose of 1 Samuel is to highlight two major events: the establishment of the monarchy in Israel (chs. 8–12); and the rise of David to be king after Saul (chs. 16–31). The book of 1 Samuel establishes the principle that obedience to the word of God is the necessary condition for a king to be acceptable to the God of Israel.

● — Literary Context —————

In what literary style was this book written?



Historical Narrative: with historical narratives you always want to ask, "How does this individual story fit into the big story of what God is doing throughout History?"

Where does this book fit into the big, Gospel story? (*Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration*)

We see elements of the Fall in failed leaders like Eli and Saul as well as the nation of Israel when they reject God as their king. However, despite their sin, God provides redemption for His people through righteous men like Samuel and David.

How does this book of the Bible point to the Rule and Reign of God?

Throughout the book of 1 Samuel you will notice the immensity of God's sovereignty. God is the one winning every battle, God is the one who is most holy, God is the one true King, God is establishing His nation, and God is the one orchestrating history to His will and for His glory.

Optional Additional Resources:

"1 Samuel: For You" by Tim Chester

Calendar

1

1 Samuel 1 - 2:11

What attributes of God do you see in this passage?

2

1 Samuel 2:12 - 3:21

What did God promise Eli that He would do? Why?

3

1 Samuel 4:1 - 22

Define the word "glory" (v.21-22). How does this help you understand the significance of what just happened?

4

1 Samuel 5:1 - 6:21

What attribute(s) of God do you see in this passage? How did the Israelites and the Philistines respond to this?

5

1 Samuel 7:1 - 15

What repeated phrase do you notice in this passage?

6

1 Samuel 8:1 - 22

Why did the Israelites want a king? What does this show about their hearts?

7

1 Samuel 9:1 - 10:27

What were Saul's qualifications to be king? Why did Samuel anoint him?

8

1 Samuel 11:1 - 12:25

What different verbs does Samuel call the Israelites to walk in? Why is this so important to Him? (Make sure you consider v.22 in your answer)

9

1 Samuel 13:1 - 14:52

Who is responsible for rescuing the Israelites?

10

1 Samuel 15:1 - 35

Why did God reject Saul?

11

1 Samuel 16:1 - 23

What difference do you see between Saul and David described in this passage?

12

1 Samuel 17:1-58

Look at v.46-47. Why was David so confident that he could defeat Goliath? What was his motivation for stepping into battle with the champion?

13

1 Samuel 18:1 - 30

Why did Saul become David's enemy?

Calendar

14

1 Samuel 19:1 - 24

What kept happening when Saul pursued David in Ramah (v.18-24)? What does this reveal about God?

15

1 Samuel 20:1-42

Why is Jonathan "grieved" for David (v.34)?

16

1 Samuel 21:1 - 22:23

Look at 22:17. Why wouldn't Saul's guards obey his command?

17

1 Samuel 23:1 - 29

Compare how God interacts with Saul and David. How are they different? Why?

18

1 Samuel 24:1-24

Why didn't David kill Saul? What does this reveal about him?

19

1 Samuel 25:1 -44

Look at v.32. Why was David grateful to Abigail for stopping him? What two wrongs did she prevent David from doing?

20

1 Samuel 26:1 -25

Look at v. 23-24. What does David believe about the Lord? Why does this keep him from killing Saul?

21

1 Samuel 27:1-12

Where did God provide refuge for David? Who were these people?

22

1 Samuel 28:1 - 25

Look at v.6. How does the Lord respond to Saul? Why?

23

1 Samuel 29:1 - 11

Right before the battle, Saul is rejected by God in chapter 28. What happens to David in chapter 29?

24

1 Samuel 30:1 - 31

What attributes of God do you notice in this passage?

25

1 Samuel 31:1 -13

What does the death of Saul and his sons reveal about the Lord? (you can refer back to 2:30, 15:23, and 28:16-19 to answer)