ETB

Social Media Messages

Summer 2022

**Session 1 – Granted**

**Email/Facebook:** This week we begin our study of 1 and 2 Kings. In these two books, we learn about the history of the people of God from when they were at their highest point—wealthy and unified—to when they were at their lowest level—disgraced and broken. I hope you’ll join us as we begin our study of these two important historical books and the lessons that are applicable for us today!

**Text/Twitter Message:** In 1 Kings 3:4-15, God gave young King Solomon an opportunity to make a decision that would affect the course of his life. Let’s learn about Solomon’s request and discover what we can learn from his decision.

**Session 2 – Repentance**

**Email/Facebook:** First Kings 8 contains Solomon’s words to the people and his prayers to God at the temple dedication. This week’s passage focuses on two parts of what Solomon said: The first is his prayer in which he asked God to forgive His people when they repented of their sin in the future. The second is the blessing Solomon spoke over the people of Israel, urging them to remain faithful to God. Let’s study 1 Kings 8:46-60 together this week!

**Text/Twitter Message:** This week we’re going to learn about repentance. Let’s study Solomon’s words at the temple dedication so we can be reminded that forgiveness awaits all who turn to God in repentance.

**Session 3 – Compromised**

**Email/Facebook:** Many today would consider the ability to compromise a good character trait. Married couples sometimes disagree but work together to compromise and meet somewhere in the middle. Politicians often need to compromise on deciding matters of public policy. Spiritual compromise, however, can lead to ruin because our allegiance to God is non-negotiable. Ponder this question before we gather this week: Why do ungodly partnerships have the potential to lead to spiritual compromise?

**Text/Twitter Message:** King Solomon was faithful to God for much of his life, but when he gave into spiritual compromise, the consequences affected him and all of Israel. Read 1 Kings 11:1-13, and join us as we discuss this passage together.

**Session 4 – Divided**

**Email/Facebook:** Most of us have received advice we wish we had heeded. It may have come from a parent, teacher, or experienced mentor. We may not have understood their reasoning when we first received the advice, but over time we have come to see the wisdom in what was suggested. Had we known then what we know now, we may very well have listened. Rehoboam made a significant decision based on some advice that appealed to his ego, and it cost him. Let’s look at this passage in 1 Kings 12:6-19 to see what we can learn from his mistake.

**Text/Twitter Message:** Think of some advice you received and followed but later regretted. What made that advice so appealing at the time? This week we’ll talk about how failure to listen to wise counsel contributes to conflict as we look at an example in 1 Kings 12.

**Session 5 – Return**

**Email/Facebook:** People who study change remind us that the past is present. In some way, past experiences still exist. Past actions defined an organization or group, so a change involves creating a new identity even when most were comfortable with the old identity. The old identity may be why they joined in the first place. King Asa faced the past and took action to move Judah toward honoring God once again. To do that, the people would have to make a break from the past. I hope you’ll join us as we learn that repentance of sin can stop its spiraling effects.

**Text/Twitter Message:** In what ways is our past present? What makes breaking from the past so challenging? This week let’s study the life of King Asa and how repentance of sin can stop its spiraling effects.

**Session 6 – Proven**

Email/Facebook: Companies hiring new employees usually want people with related experience. Supervisors want to hire people who have proven track records of success. Many believe that past success is the best indicator of future success. The Bible is filled with demonstrations of God’s power. Elijah was an instrument whom God used to display His power. God’s past actions assure us of His present and future power. Let’s marvel at God’s power together as we study 1 Kings 18!

**Text/Twitter Message:** Only God is worthy of worship. In 1 Kings 18, He demonstrates His power and glory, and we’re going to study it together as a group. I hope you’ll be there!

**Session 7 – Hope**

**Email/Facebook:** Many of us have at least thought about walking away from a job at some point. The stress, a coworker, that never-pleased customer, and a lack of purpose or appreciation can cause us to daydream about packing our things and going somewhere no one can find us. In 1 Kings 19, Elijah had one of those moments when he wanted to quit and run away. But God reminded the prophet there was still work to be done.

**Text/Twitter Message:** Focusing on God’s purposes brings hope out of despair. Elijah felt hopeless, but God revealed His presence and provision in 1 Kings 19. Let’s discover what God wants to teach us through this passage this week!

**Session 8 – God Heals**

**Email/Facebook:** We all know people who ignore their doctor’s advice. The doctor may encourage them to change their diet, get more exercise, or more sleep. For some, receiving any medical advice, especially when it involves a simple change, appears to make them more determined to do it their way. Our pride can get in the way of making changes that could help us in the long run. This week we’ll look at the example of Naaman, and how God offers compassion to people who follow His commands.

**Text/Twitter Message:** God offers compassion to people who follow His commands. Let’s study 2 Kings 5:1-14 for an example of this truth!

**Session 9 – God Provides**

**Email/Facebook:** People are drawn to stories of unlikely heroes: the least known player on the team scoring the winning run, a child saving her family from a fire, and the smallest rescuer being able to reach a trapped person. In 2 Kings 7, we find four men who were the unlikeliest of heroes. They were shunned, yet God chose them to deliver the news of His provision. I hope you’ll join us as we study this passage together this week!

**Text/Twitter Message:** God can be trusted to provide for our needs. In 2 Kings 7, we see an example of this truth. Join us as we learn from God’s Word!

**Session 10 – God Honors**

Email/Facebook: An old saying goes, “Many people don’t plan to fail; they just fail to plan.” Some may fail to consider how long it will take to complete a project. Others are busy doing many things but do not prioritize the most important projects. We may be overwhelmed with the enormity of the task, so we put it off hoping it will take care of itself. Eventually, we reveal our priorities in the tasks we complete. What we think is important, we get done. This week as we study 2 Kings 12:4-16, we’ll see that God honors people who demonstrate God’s priorities.

**Text/Twitter Message:** In 2 Kings 12:4-16, we see Joash prioritize the repair of God’s temple. As we study it, we’ll learn that God honors people who demonstrate God’s priorities. I hope you’ll join us for discussion on this passage!

**Session 11 – God Judges**

**Email/Facebook:** What kinds of warning systems are common today—in our homes, cars, community, or nation? Why do people ignore warnings? As we’re discovering in our study of 1 and 2 Kings, God’s people were warned over and over again to repent and follow God alone. This week we’ll be reminded that God holds all people accountable for their sin as we look specifically at 2 Kings 17:7-20. See you there!

**Text/Twitter Message:** God holds all people accountable for their sin. Join us as we learn why this truth matters for us today.

**Session 12 – God Hears**

**Email/Facebook:** Prayer is an invitation into the throne room of God. This invitation is about having a conversation with the Creator of the universe and being ushered into His presence as someone He desires to spend time with. God wants to hear from us and to show us His wisdom and plans. Like any other invitation, we must choose to accept it. Too many times, we expect God to act but do so without approaching Him. Why might people ignore God even when facing a crisis? What amazes you most about God’s desire to hear our prayers? Think about these questions and be ready to discuss your thoughts this week as we look at 2 Kings 19!

**Text/Twitter Message:** What amazes you most about God’s desire to hear our prayers? This week we’ll learn that God listens to the honest and humble prayers of His followers. See you there!

**Session 13 – God Moves**

**Email/Facebook:** The Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered by Bedouin shepherds in the late 1940s. They found what became recognized as the oldest copies of parts of the Old Testament. Other writings were also found that shed light on life during the times of Jesus. These scrolls continue to be studied and reviewed, giving renewed interest in examining the truths found on those manuscripts. As we wrap up our study of 1 and 2 Kings, we’ll discover that God’s Spirit moves with power when His people obey His Word.

**Text/Twitter Message:** God’s Spirit moves with power when His people obey His Word. Join us as we conclude our study of 1 and 2 Kings this week!