

DAILY READING PLAN



Week of September 25, 2022
Transitions: David to Solomon
1 Chronicles 28:1-10

Day #1 – Encountering Change and Transition - Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 | So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

Change and Transition. We face change and transitions all the time, every day. While we use these terms interchangeably, there is a big difference. Take a few moments and list the changes you've faced in the past year, month, week, and day. How would you describe your relationship to change? Is it easy, difficult, manageable, or challenging? How does the passage above help (or not) your experience of change and transitions?

Day #2 –Thriving in transition requires patience - Read Philippians 4:6&7 | Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

It's important to distinguish between change and transition. Change is what happens outside of us. Moving to a new community. Switching jobs. The birth of a child or grandchild. Sometimes we create the change, and sometimes change happens to us, but change is what happens outside of us. Transition is what happens inside us. It's the stew of anxiety, uncertainty, hope and expectation, learning and growth that occurs within us as we move from what we have known to a new reality. Think about the last time you encountered change. What did you learn about yourself? Did you have to exercise patience? How did you do that?

Day #3 – Thriving in transition requires courage - Read Psalm 27:1 | *"The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?"*

There was a 9-foot giant in King David's life. That giant's name was Goliath. Goliath was a seasoned warrior. David was a shepherd, probably 16 years old. Safe to say, the odds were stacked against David winning a fight. Or so we might have thought. Nevertheless, David was courageous because he knew God was faithful and would always be with him. Throughout our shared history here, Prince of Peace has faced a lot of giants, a lot of Goliaths. And none of them more foreboding, even dire than our giant debt. But we have the benefit of perspective; we know how that turned out. In the worst possible conditions, we took courage in knowing that God is faithful, and that God would always be with us. We practiced gratitude. And as it always does, gratitude creates generosity. We courageously zeroed out our debt and freed up hundreds of thousands of dollars for ministry. What (or who) are your giants? How does the story of David and Goliath help (or not) you face your giants?

Day #4 –Thriving in transition requires faithfulness - Read Lamentations 3:22-26 | *The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.*

As we move into the coming months, we'll be thinking a lot about change and transition in the context of church and congregational leadership. We'll move toward where we're going by considering God's faithfulness in the past. We've been through these changes in the past, we'll be in God's hands as we move into the future. What does the passage from Lamentations speak to you today?

Day #5 –Our future is in God's hands- Read Psalm 31:14-15 | *"I trust in you, Lord; I say, "You are my God." My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me."*

We have a future that is held in God's hands, a future into which God is leading us. What are your hopes and dreams for this season of change in our faith community? How do you understand the statement that our future is in God's hands? How will you be part of shaping that future?