

June 2008

Anchor Park & East Anchorage United Methodist Churches Bible Readings

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Romans 7</i> <i>1 Sam. 16</i> <i>Psalms 61</i>	<i>Romans 8</i> <i>1 Sam. 17:1-54</i> <i>Psalms 62</i>	<i>Rom. 9:1-29</i> <i>1 Sam. 17:55-18:30</i> <i>Psalms 63</i>	<i>Rom. 9:30-10:21</i> <i>1 Sam. 19</i> <i>Psalms 64</i>	<i>Rom. 11:1-24</i> <i>1 Sam. 20</i> <i>Psalms 65</i>	<i>Rom. 11:25-36</i> <i>1 Sam. 21-22</i> <i>Psalms 66</i>	<i>Romans 12</i> <i>1 Sam. 23-24</i> <i>Psalms 67</i>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<i>Romans 13</i> <i>1 Sam. 25</i> <i>Psalms 68</i>	<i>Romans 14</i> <i>1 Sam. 26</i> <i>Psalms 69</i>	<i>Rom. 15:1-13</i> <i>1 Sam. 27-28</i> <i>Psalms 70</i>	<i>Rom. 15:14-33</i> <i>1 Sam. 29-31</i> <i>Psalms 71</i>	<i>Romans 16</i> <i>2 Sam. 1</i> <i>Psalms 72</i>	<i>Mark 1:1-20</i> <i>2 Sam. 2:1-3:1</i> <i>Daniel 1</i>	<i>Mark 1:21-45</i> <i>2 Sam. 3:2-39</i> <i>Daniel 2:1-23</i>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<i>Mark 2</i> <i>2 Sam. 4-5</i> <i>Daniel 2:24-49</i>	<i>Mark 3:1-19</i> <i>2 Sam. 6</i> <i>Daniel 3</i>	<i>Mark 3:20-35</i> <i>2 Sam. 7-8</i> <i>Daniel 4</i>	<i>Mark 4:1-20</i> <i>2 Sam. 9-10</i> <i>Daniel 5</i>	<i>Mark 4:21-41</i> <i>2 Sam. 11-12</i> <i>Daniel 6</i>	<i>Mark 5:1-20</i> <i>2 Sam. 13</i> <i>Daniel 7</i>	<i>Mark 5:21-43</i> <i>2 Sam. 14</i> <i>Daniel 8</i>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<i>Mark 6:1-29</i> <i>2 Sam. 15</i> <i>Daniel 9</i>	<i>Mark 6:30-56</i> <i>2 Sam. 16</i> <i>Daniel 10</i>	<i>Mark 7:1-13</i> <i>2 Sam. 17</i> <i>Daniel 11:1-19</i>	<i>Mark 7:14-37</i> <i>2 Sam. 18</i> <i>Daniel 11:20-45</i>	<i>Mark 8:1-21</i> <i>2 Sam. 19</i> <i>Daniel 12</i>	<i>Mark 8:22-9:1</i> <i>2 Sam. 20-21</i> <i>Hosea 1:1-2:1</i>	<i>Mark 9:2-50</i> <i>2 Sam. 22</i> <i>Hosea 2:2-23</i>
29	30	<p style="text-align: center;">Come, Divine Interpreter Come, divine interpreter Bring me eyes thy book to read, Ears the mystic words to hear, Words which did from thee proceed, Words that endless bliss impart, Keep in an obedient heart.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">All who read, or hear are blessed, If thy plain commands we do; Of thy kingdom here possessed, Thee we shall in glory view When thou comest on earth to abide, Reign triumphant at thy side. - Charles Wesley</p>		

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Mark: The Oldest of the Gospels

Most scholars agree that Mark is the oldest of the Gospels, probably written between 50 and 60 A.D.

Mark was written in a time and place when the Christian movement was under heavy persecution by the powers in Rome and contains many references, both explicitly and veiled, to the relationship of suffering and discipleship (1:12-13; 3:22,30; 8:34-38; 10:30,33-34,45; 13:8,11-13).

The Gospel of Mark emphasizes:
The cross—the human cause and divine necessity of the cross.
The cost of discipleship
Jesus as a teacher or “rabbi”
The “Messianic secret” - Jesus warning his followers to keep silent about what they know or have seen because revealing the secret too soon could be dangerous
Jesus as the Son of God

Mark’s Gospel is succinct and vivid. It moves quickly from episode to episode. Most interestingly, the earliest versions of Mark end at 16:8, with the women fleeing from the tomb.

[From the introductory notes to the Gospel of Mark in the NIV Study Bible]

John Wesley’s “Method” of Bible Reading and Study

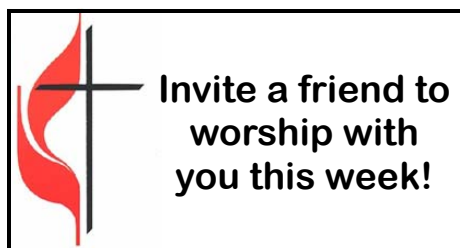
Wesley read the Bible like he did most things in his life and ministry: with a method.

The main elements of his Bible method were:

1. **Daily:** he read the Bible every morning and evening;
2. **Singleness of Purpose:** he read to know God’s will for his life;
3. **Correlation:** he read comparing scripture with scripture, making sure his learnings were confirmed elsewhere in Scripture;
4. **Prayerfulness:** he prayed while he read that the Holy Spirit might instruct him;
5. **Resolution:** he resolved to put into action that which he learned.

Although John Wesley read hundreds of books on a wide range of subjects, he continually referred to himself as *homo unis libri*—a man of one book.

[from *Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition*, chapter 3]



1 & 2 Samuel: From Samuel to Saul to David

The Bible reading schedule has us at the midway point in our journey through 1 & 2 Samuel. These books contain stories that, for some, may bring back memories of Sunday School classes and Vacation Bible School as you read about David and Goliath, Absalom, Saul, Samuel, and Eli.

An over-arching theme in these books is Israel’s struggles concerning leadership and government. The people desire a king. Saul becomes the first King of Israel and then David follows.

In between those events are stories of courage and cowardice, faithfulness and faithlessness, and, wisdom and foolishness. In these stories are events and dynamics that still create headlines today.

A Prayer for the Spirit of Truth

*From the cowardice that dares not face new truth,
From the laziness that is contented with half-truth,
From the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth,
Good Lord,
Deliver me.
Amen.*

[A Prayer from Kenya]