

A Study of the Basics in the Lives of God's Heroes



'David' means 'Beloved'.

Description:

Read I Samuel 16,17 Psalm 19

Extra Reading: I Samuel 16-30, II Samuel (all)

Derivation:

What was the quality of his relationships with family and friends? How did these relationships affect his life?



Demonstration:

As you study David what do you see in him that shows him to be a person of character? What challenges you from his life? What do you believe to be the message of his life? What are his strong points and weaknesses? How did he live up to the meaning of his name?

Devotion:

Please read Psalm 19. (David wrote this psalm.)

What do you see from this passage about David's commitment to God and His Word? What do you believe is the connection between David's love for the Word and the character of his life?

Decision:

What difference does David's example make to YOU? In looking at your summer do you believe that it will be important to spend regular consistent time in God's Word? What can you do specifically to make sure you are in the Word consistently this summer?



'Mary' means 'Strength'.

Description:

Read Luke 10:38-42

Extra Reading: John 11, 12:1-8

Derivation:

What was the quality of her relationships with family and friends? How did these relationships affect her life?



Demonstration:

As you study Mary what do you see in her that shows her to be a person of character? What challenges you from her life? What do you believe to be the message of her life? What are her strong points and weaknesses? How did she live up to the meaning of her name?

Devotion:

Please read Luke 10:38-42 again.

What do you see from this passage about Mary's commitment to Jesus and His Word? What do you believe is the connection between Mary's love for Jesus' Word and the character of her life?

Decision:

What difference does Mary's example make to YOU? What do you think will keep you from spending time in God's Word this summer? How can you be like Mary and choose what is most important (to sit at Jesus' feet and listen) above all the other good things you could be doing?



'Daniel' means 'God has judged'.

Description:

Read Daniel 1, 2,6

Extra Reading: Daniel 1–12; Ezekiel 14:14; 28:3

Derivation:

What was the quality of his relationships with family and friends? How did these relationships affect his life?



Demonstration:

As you study Daniel what do you see in him that shows him to be a person of character? What challenges you from his life? What do you believe to be the message of his life? What are his strong points and weaknesses? How did he live up to the meaning of his name?

Devotion:

Please read Daniel 6 again.

What do you see from this passage about Daniel's commitment to pray? What do you believe is the connection between Daniel's devotion to prayer and the character of his life?

Decision:

What difference does Daniel's example make to YOU? In looking at your summer do you believe that it will be important to spend regular consistent time in prayer? What can you do specifically to make sure you pray consistently this summer?



'Hannah' means 'Grace '.

Description:

Read I Samuel 1, 2:1-10

Extra Reading: I Samuel 2:18-21

Derivation:

What was the quality of her relationships with family and friends? How did these relationships affect her life?



Demonstration:

As you study Hannah what do you see in her that shows her to be a person of character? What challenges you from her life? What do you believe to be the message of her life? What are her strong points and weaknesses? How did she live up to the meaning of her name?

Devotion:

Please read I Samuel 1 again.

What do you see from this passage about Hannah's reliance upon God in prayer? Hannah names her son Samuel (1 Samuel 1:20) which means 'Heard of God'. What was Samuel's commitment to prayer and how do you think Hannah's devotion to prayer affected Samuel's life? (see I Samuel 7:5-8; 8:6; 12:23; 15:11)

Decision:

What difference does Hannah's example make to YOU? What do you desperately need to be praying to God about this summer? What characteristics of Hannah's prayer life do you want to make part of your own?



'Barnabas' means 'Son of Encouragement'.

Description:

Read Acts 4:36,37; 9:26,27; 11:19-26; 15:36-41

Extra Reading: Acts 13-15; Colossians 4:10

Derivation:

What was the quality of his relationships with family and friends? How did these relationships affect his life?



Demonstration:

As you study Barnabas what do you see in him that shows him to be a person of character? What challenges you from his life? What do you believe to be the message of his life? What are his strong points and weaknesses? How did he live up to the meaning of his name?

Devotion:

Please read Acts 9:26,27 and 15:36-41.

What do you see from these passages about Barnabas' commitment to others? Paul (Saul) wrote 13 books in the New Testament and Mark wrote the gospel of Mark; how important was Barnabas in their lives? What do you learn from Barnabas' devotion to fellowship?

Decision:

What difference does Barnabas' example make to YOU? In looking at your summer do you believe that it will be important to spend regular consistent time with other believers? What can you do specifically to make sure you fellowship with those who follow Jesus this summer?



'Ruth' means 'female companion'.

Description:

Read Ruth 1-4

Extra Reading: Matthew 1:5

Derivation:

What was the quality of her relationships with family and friends? How did these relationships affect her life?



Demonstration:

As you study Ruth what do you see in her that shows her to be a person of character? What challenges you from her life? What do you believe to be the message of her life? What are her strong points and weaknesses? How did she live up to the meaning of her name?

Devotion:

Please read Ruth 1 again.

What kind of commitment did Ruth make to her mother-in-law Naomi? Why did she make this commitment? How did God reward Ruth's faithfulness to Naomi and to Him? (see Ruth 2-4)

Decision:

What difference does Ruth's example make to YOU? What do you think will keep you from spending time with God's people this summer? How can you be like Ruth and choose to meet with followers of Jesus even though it may cost you something? (What did it cost Ruth?)



'Philip' means 'Horse-lover'.

Description:

Read Acts 8:1-8, 26-40; 21:8,9

Extra Reading: Acts 6:1-7

Derivation:

What was the quality of his relationships with family and friends? How did these relationships affect his life?



Demonstration:

As you study Phillip what do you see in him that shows him to be a person of character? What challenges you from his life? What do you believe to be the message of his life? What are his strong points and weaknesses? From Acts 21:8 what was Philip called and why?

Devotion:

Please read Acts 8:1-8; 26-40

What do you see from these passages about Philip's commitment to share the message of Christ? What were the key elements that Philip used to share the good news about Jesus with the Ethiopian?

Decision:

What difference does Philip's example make to YOU? Who can you share the good news about Jesus with this summer? What do you need to know to be more effective in sharing Christ?



'Esther' means 'Star'.

Description:

Read Esther 2-8

Key Verse: Esther 4:14

Derivation:

What was the quality of her relationships with family and friends? How did these relationships affect her life?



Demonstration:

As you study Esther what do you see in her that shows her to be a person of character? What challenges you from her life? What do you believe to be the message of her life? What are her strong points and weaknesses? How did she live up to the meaning of her name?

Devotion:

Please read Esther 4:1-17

What do you see from this passage about Esther's commitment to God and to communicate a difficult message to the king even though he might not want to hear it? What did she ask others to do for her when she went to see the king?

Decision:

What difference does Esther's example make to YOU? Esther was placed by God in a specific place and time in order to share God's message. Think about the different arenas you will be in this summer (family, friends, work, church, school, etc.), who can you share the gospel with in these arenas even though you don't know how they will respond? Who can you be in prayer for and who do you know that can pray for you and these people as you seek to share Christ?