

Empires, Kingdoms, and Realms *Judges and Kings ~ Lesson Nine*

We believe that God wants people to know Him, and to know who we are in Him. One of the best ways He does this is through the Bible. There are countless, effective ways to study Scripture. For this study, we will be using the SOAP method (**S**cripture, **O**bservation, **A**pplication, **P**rayer), learning how to explore the Word for ourselves. As part of the lesson, you will also watch Pastor Nate's message every week (in person or online) and take notes for your women's small group discussion.

This week we will explore the thread of judges and kings throughout Scripture. We will look at how the Israelites desire for a leader began a cycle of disobedience that could only be resolved with the ultimate king – Jesus.

I. Scripture

Read through the entire passage (multiple times and different versions are often helpful). Ask the Lord to reveal Himself to you as you read and expect that He will answer.

Key Verse ~ Choose and write down a verse that stands out to you and commit it to memory as your verse for the week.

II. Observation

As you read through the entire passage, engage with the text. Using a pen and highlighter, underline key words and important phrases. Look for repeated words or patterns. Journal your questions, observations and insights in the space on the right. (Whenever possible, it is important to consider cultural context when you read Scripture – who wrote it, to whom, when, where, why.)

Judges 17

⁵ Now this man Micah had a shrine, and he made an ephod and some household gods and installed one of his sons as his priest. ⁶ In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

1 Samuel 8

⁶ But when they said, "Give us a king to lead us," this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the Lord. ⁷ And the Lord told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected

me as their king. ⁸ As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. ⁹ Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will claim as his rights.”

¹⁰ Samuel told all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹ He said, “This is what the king who will reign over you will claim as his rights: He will take your sons and make them serve with his chariots and horses, and they will run in front of his chariots. ¹² Some he will assign to be commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and others to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and still others to make weapons of war and equipment for his chariots.

2 Samuel 5

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, “We are your own flesh and blood. ² In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the Lord said to you, ‘You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.’”

³ When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel.

Daniel 7

¹³ “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Ephesians 1

¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²²And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Colossians 1

¹⁵The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. ²¹Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²²But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— ²³if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel.

III. Application

God's Word becomes personal to us. Perhaps it is an encouragement, an instruction, or a new promise. Consider what God is speaking to you today. Take some time to ponder, maybe even wrestle, as you write. Here are some questions to get you started:

- What do I learn about God? (God the Father, Jesus, and/or the Holy Spirit)
- What do I learn about myself or others?
- How does this passage influence my perspective?
- What do I *do* from what I've learned?

IV. Prayer

Take some time with the Lord. Seek Him, listen, and write a prayer based on what you've learned or anything else on your heart this week.

V. Weekend Sermon Notes

Every week before Thursday's study, attend or watch the corresponding weekend message. (This can be found online at faithchapel.cc.) Jot down notes, takeaways, observations, and questions.

Empires, Kingdoms, and Realms *Prophets ~ Lesson Ten*

We believe that God wants people to know Him, and to know who we are in Him. One of the best ways He does this is through the Bible. There are countless, effective ways to study Scripture. For this study, we will be using the SOAP method (**S**cripture, **O**bservation, **A**pplication, **P**rayer), learning how to explore the Word for ourselves. As part of the lesson, you will also watch Pastor Nate's message every week (in person or online) and take notes for your women's small group discussion.

This week we will explore the thread of prophets throughout Scripture. We will observe the role of prophets, and see how Jesus, the fulfillment of prophecy, changed the world with His prophetic message.

I. Scripture

Read through the entire passage (multiple times and different versions are often helpful). Ask the Lord to reveal Himself to you as you read and expect that He will answer.

Key Verse ~ Choose and write down a verse that stands out to you and commit it to memory as your verse for the week.

II. Observation

As you read through the entire passage, engage with the text. Using a pen and highlighter, underline key words and important phrases. Look for repeated words or patterns. Journal your questions, observations and insights in the space on the right. (Whenever possible, it is important to consider cultural context when you read Scripture – who wrote it, to whom, when, where, why.)

Deuteronomy 1

¹If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you a sign or wonder, ²and if the sign or wonder spoken of takes place, and the prophet says, "Let us follow other gods" (gods you have not known) "and let us worship them," ³you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. The Lord your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul. ⁴It is the Lord your God you must follow, and him you must revere. Keep his commands and obey him; serve

him and hold fast to him.

Deuteronomy 18

¹⁴ The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the Lord your God has not permitted you to do so. ¹⁵ The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. ¹⁶ For this is what you asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, “Let us not hear the voice of the Lord our God nor see this great fire anymore, or we will die.”

¹⁷ The Lord said to me: “What they say is good. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. ¹⁹ I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. ²⁰ But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death.”

Luke 4

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom
for the prisoners

and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. ²¹ He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

²³ Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in

Capernaum.”

²⁴“Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. ²⁵I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. ²⁶Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. ²⁷And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.”

²⁸All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. ³⁰But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

I Corinthians 14:5

Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy. ²For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit. ³But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. ⁴Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church. ⁵I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

III. Application

God’s Word becomes personal to us. Perhaps it is an encouragement, an instruction, or a new promise. Consider what God is speaking to you today. Take some time to ponder, maybe even wrestle, as you write. Here are some questions to get you started:

- What do I learn about God? (God the Father, Jesus, and/or the Holy Spirit)
- What do I learn about myself or others?
- How does this passage influence my perspective?
- What do I *do* from what I’ve learned?

IV. Prayer

Take some time with the Lord. Seek Him, listen, and write a prayer based on what you've learned or anything else on your heart this week.

V. Weekend Sermon Notes

Every week before Thursday's study, attend or watch the corresponding weekend message. (This can be found online at faithchapel.cc.) Jot down notes, takeaways, observations, and questions.

Empires, Kingdoms, and Realms *Priests ~ Lesson Eleven*

We believe that God wants people to know Him, and to know who we are in Him. One of the best ways He does this is through the Bible. There are countless, effective ways to study Scripture. For this study, we will be using the SOAP method (**S**cripture, **O**bservation, **A**pplication, **P**rayer), learning how to explore the Word for ourselves. As part of the lesson, you will also watch Pastor Nate's message every week (in person or online) and take notes for your women's small group discussion.

This week we will study the thread of priests throughout Scripture. We will explore the role and requirements of Israelite priests, how Jesus the High Priest gives followers direct access to God, and how believers as the royal priesthood are called to represent God to the world.

I. Scripture

Read through the passages (multiple times and different versions are often helpful). Ask the Lord to reveal Himself to you as you read and expect that He will answer.

Key Verse ~ Choose and write down a verse that stands out to you and commit it to memory as your verse for the week.

II. Observation

As you read through the entire passage, engage with the text and look for the common thread. Using a pen and highlighter, underline key words and important phrases. Look for repeated words or patterns. Journal your questions, observations and insights in the space on the right. (Whenever possible, it is important to consider cultural context when you read Scripture – who wrote it, to whom, when, where, why.)

Exodus 29

⁴²“For the generations to come this burnt offering is to be made regularly at the entrance to the tent of meeting, before the Lord. There I will meet you and speak to you; ⁴³there also I will meet with the Israelites, and the place will be consecrated by my glory.

⁴⁴“So I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar and will consecrate Aaron and his sons to serve me as priests. ⁴⁵Then I will dwell among the Israelites and be their God. ⁴⁶They will know that I am the Lord their

God, who brought them out of Egypt so that I might dwell among them. I am the Lord their God.

Leviticus 10

⁸Then the Lord said to Aaron, ⁹“You and your sons are not to drink wine or other fermented drink whenever you go into the tent of meeting, or you will die. This is a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, ¹⁰so that you can distinguish between the holy and the common, between the unclean and the clean, ¹¹and so you can teach the Israelites all the decrees the Lord has given them through Moses.”

Hebrews 4

¹⁴Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

1 Peter 2

Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. ²Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,
a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him
will never be put to shame.”

⁷Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

⁸ and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the
message—which is also what they were
destined for.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal
priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special
possession, that you may declare the praises of
him who called you out of darkness into his
wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are the people of God; once you
had not received mercy, but now you have
received mercy.

Revelation 1

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:
Grace and peace to you from him who is, and
who was, and who is to come, and from the
seven spirits before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus
Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn
from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the
earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our
sins by his blood, ⁶ and has made us to be a
kingdom and priests to serve his God and
Father—to him be glory and power for ever and
ever! Amen.

III. Application

God’s Word becomes personal to us. Perhaps it is an encouragement, an instruction, or a new promise. Consider what God is speaking to you today. Take some time to ponder, maybe even wrestle, as you write. Here are some questions to get you started:

- What do I learn about God? (God the Father, Jesus, and/or the Holy Spirit)
- What do I learn about myself or others?
- How does this passage influence my perspective?
- What do I *do* from what I’ve learned?

IV. Prayer

Take some time with the Lord. Seek Him, listen, and write a prayer based on what you've learned or anything else on your heart this week.

V. Weekend Sermon Notes

Every week before Thursday's study, attend or watch the corresponding weekend message. (This can be found online at faithchapel.cc.) Jot down notes, takeaways, observations, and questions.

Empires, Kingdoms, and Realms *Kingdoms ~ Lesson Twelve*

We believe that God wants people to know Him, and to know who we are in Him. One of the best ways He does this is through the Bible. There are countless, effective ways to study Scripture. For this study, we will be using the SOAP method (**S**cripture, **O**bservation, **A**pplication, **P**rayer), learning how to explore the Word for ourselves. As part of the lesson, you will also watch Pastor Nate's message every week (in person or online) and take notes for your women's small group discussion.

This week we will study the thread of kingdoms throughout Scripture. We will explore the establishment of the Israelite kingdom, the waxing and waning of dynasties, and watch how Jesus ushers in a new kingdom – the Kingdom of God.

I. Scripture

Read through the entire passage (multiple times and different versions are often helpful). Ask the Lord to reveal Himself to you as you read and expect that He will answer.

Key Verse ~ Choose and write down a verse that stands out to you and commit it to memory as your verse for the week.

II. Observation

As you read through the entire passage, engage with the text and look for the common thread. Using a pen and highlighter, underline key words and important phrases. Look for repeated words or patterns. Journal your questions, observations and insights in the space on the right. (Whenever possible, it is important to consider cultural context when you read Scripture – who wrote it, to whom, when, where, why.)

Isaiah 14

⁵ Then Jehoshaphat stood up in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem at the temple of the Lord in the front of the new courtyard ⁶ and said:

“Lord, the God of our ancestors, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you. ⁷ Our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend? ⁸ They have lived in it and have built in

it a sanctuary for your Name, saying,⁹ ‘If calamity comes upon us, whether the sword of judgment, or plague or famine, we will stand in your presence before this temple that bears your Name and will cry out to you in our distress, and you will hear us and save us.’

2 Chronicles 17

¹Jehoshaphat his son succeeded him as king and strengthened himself against Israel. ²He stationed troops in all the fortified cities of Judah and put garrisons in Judah and in the towns of Ephraim that his father Asa had captured.

³The Lord was with Jehoshaphat because he followed the ways of his father David before him. He did not consult the Baals ⁴but sought the God of his father and followed his commands rather than the practices of Israel. ⁵The Lord established the kingdom under his control; and all Judah brought gifts to Jehoshaphat, so that he had great wealth and honor. ⁶His heart was devoted to the ways of the Lord; furthermore, he removed the high places and the Asherah poles from Judah.

Luke 13

¹⁸Then Jesus asked, “What is the kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it to? ¹⁹It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds perched in its branches.”

²⁰Again he asked, “What shall I compare the kingdom of God to? ²¹It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

Matthew 6

²⁸“And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What

shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 12

²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, “It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons.”

²⁵ Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. ²⁶ If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? ²⁷ And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your people drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. ²⁸ But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Revelation 12

¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:
“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Messiah.
For the accuser of our brothers and sisters,
who accuses them before our God day and
night, has been hurled down.

III. Application

God’s Word becomes personal to us. Perhaps it is an encouragement, an instruction, or a new promise. Consider what God is speaking to you today. Take some time to ponder, maybe even wrestle, as you write. Here are some questions to get you started:

- What do I learn about God? (God the Father, Jesus, and/or the Holy Spirit)
- What do I learn about myself or others?
- How does this passage influence my perspective?
- What do I *do* from what I’ve learned?

IV. Praye

Take some time with the Lord. Seek Him, listen, and write a prayer based on what you've learned or anything else on your heart this week.

V. Weekend Sermon Notes

Every week before Thursday's study, attend or watch the corresponding weekend message. (This can be found online at faithchapel.cc.) Jot down notes, takeaways, observations, and questions.

Empires, Kingdoms, and Realms *War ~ Lesson Thirteen*

We believe that God wants people to know Him, and to know who we are in Him. One of the best ways He does this is through the Bible. There are countless, effective ways to study Scripture. For this study, we will be using the SOAP method (**S**cripture, **O**bservation, **A**pplication, **P**rayer), learning how to explore the Word for ourselves. As part of the lesson, you will also watch Pastor Nate's message every week (in person or online) and take notes for your women's small group discussion.

This week we will explore the thread of war throughout Scripture. We will observe the ravages of war throughout human history, what Jesus teaches about war, and where the ultimate war resides and how it can be won.

I. Scripture

Read through the entire passage (multiple times and different versions are often helpful). Ask the Lord to reveal Himself to you as you read and expect that He will answer.

Key Verse ~ Choose and write down a verse that stands out to you and commit it to memory as your verse for the week.

II. Observation

As you read through the entire passage, engage with the text and look for the common thread. Using a pen and highlighter, underline key words and important phrases. Look for repeated words or patterns. Journal your questions, observations and insights in the space on the right. (Whenever possible, it is important to consider cultural context when you read Scripture – who wrote it, to whom, when, where, why.)

Deuteronomy 20

When you go to war against your enemies and see horses and chariots and an army greater than yours, do not be afraid of them, because the Lord your God, who brought you up out of Egypt, will be with you. ²When you are about to go into battle, the priest shall come forward and address the army. ³He shall say: "Hear, Israel: Today you are going into battle against your enemies. Do not be fainthearted or afraid; do not panic or be terrified by them. ⁴For the Lord your God is the one who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give

you victory.”

¹⁶ However, in the cities of the nations the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance, do not leave alive anything that breathes. ¹⁷ Completely destroy^[a] them—the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites—as the Lord your God has commanded you. ¹⁸ Otherwise, they will teach you to follow all the detestable things they do in worshiping their gods, and you will sin against the Lord your God.

Isaiah 2

³ Many peoples will come and say,
“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the temple of the God of Jacob.
He will teach us his ways,
so that we may walk in his paths.”

The law will go out from Zion,
the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴ He will judge between the nations
and will settle disputes for many peoples.
They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war anymore.

⁵ Come, descendants of Jacob,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Matthew 5

³⁸ “You have heard that it was said, ‘Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.’ ³⁹ But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. ⁴⁰ And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. ⁴¹ If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise

on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. ⁴⁶If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that?

Ephesians 6

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people

Revelation 21

¹Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ²I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

III. Application

God's Word becomes personal to us. Perhaps it is an encouragement, an instruction, or a new promise. Consider what God is speaking to you today. Take some time to ponder, maybe even wrestle, as you write. Here are some questions to get you started:

- What do I learn about God? (God the Father, Jesus, and/or the Holy Spirit)
- What do I learn about myself or others?
- How does this passage influence my perspective?
- What do I *do* from what I've learned?

IV. Prayer

Take some time with the Lord. Seek Him, listen, and write a prayer based on what you've learned or anything else on your heart this week.

V. Weekend Sermon Notes

Every week before Thursday's study, attend or watch the preceding weekend message. (This can be found online at faithchapel.cc.) Jot down notes, takeaways, observations, and questions.

Empires, Kingdoms, and Realms *Spiritual Realms ~ Lesson Fourteen*

We believe that God wants people to know Him, and to know who we are in Him. One of the best ways He does this is through the Bible. There are countless, effective ways to study Scripture. For this study, we will be using the SOAP method (**S**cripture, **O**bservation, **A**pplication, **P**rayer), learning how to explore the Word for ourselves. As part of the lesson, you will also watch Pastor Nate's message every week (in person or online) and take notes for your women's small group discussion.

This week we will follow the thread of spiritual realms throughout Scripture. We will observe how the material and spiritual world intersect, explore how seen and unseen forces impact life, and discover how to use the spiritual authority Jesus gave us.

I. Scripture

Read through the entire passage (multiple times and different versions are often helpful). Ask the Lord to reveal Himself to you as you read and expect that He will answer.

Key Verse ~ Choose and write down a verse that stands out to you and commit it to memory as your verse for the week.

II. Observation

As you read through the entire passage, engage with the text and look for the common thread. Using a pen and highlighter, underline key words and important phrases. Look for repeated words or patterns. Journal your questions, observations and insights in the space on the right. (Whenever possible, it is important to consider cultural context when you read Scripture – who wrote it, to whom, when, where, why.)

2 Kings 6

¹⁵ When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked.

¹⁶ "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see." Then the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills

full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.¹⁸ As the enemy came down toward him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, “Strike this army with blindness.” So he struck them with blindness, as Elisha had asked.

Numbers 11

²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people what the Lord had said. He brought together seventy of their elders and had them stand around the tent. ²⁵ Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took some of the power of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied—but did not do so again.

²⁶ However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the camp. They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ A young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.”

Joel 2

“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.

²⁹ Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

³⁰ I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and billows of smoke.

³¹ The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

³² And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved; for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the Lord has said, even among the survivors whom the Lord calls.

John 8

⁴² Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I have come here from God. I have not come on my own; God sent

me. ⁴³Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. ⁴⁴You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. ⁴⁵Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! ⁴⁶Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? ⁴⁷Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

2 Corinthians 10

³For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Luke 10

¹⁷The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

¹⁸He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. ²⁰However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

²¹At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

III. Application

God's Word becomes personal to us. Perhaps it is an encouragement, an instruction, or a new promise. Consider what God is speaking to you today. Take some time to ponder, maybe even wrestle, as you write. Here are some questions to get you started:

- What do I learn about God? (God the Father, Jesus, and/or the Holy Spirit)
- What do I learn about myself or others?
- How does this passage influence my perspective?
- What do I *do* from what I've learned?

IV. Prayer

Take some time with the Lord. Seek Him, listen, and write a prayer based on what you've learned or anything else on your heart this week.

V. Weekend Sermon Notes

Every week before Thursday's study, attend or watch the preceding weekend message. (This can be found online at faithchapel.cc.) Jot down notes, takeaways, observations, and questions.