

Week 180 – w/c 19/4/20

Monday: John 6:1-24. The miracle didn't happen until Jesus had given thanks for God's natural provision (see v11). Perhaps a lack of thanksgiving for the natural blessings God gives, is a reason why the supernatural blessings are sometimes not experienced?

Tuesday: Numbers 36:1-13. For the sake of the wider benefit of their tribe and the nation, Zelophehad's daughters were restricted regarding who they could marry. Sometimes a restriction on us is because God has a greater purpose in store. Sacrifices we make to follow God's purposes, will ultimately be rewarded.

Wednesday: 1 Chronicles 20:1-8. David received the spoils even though he had not done the hard work! 2 Samuel 11 speaks of the same incident but includes the story of David's sin and moral failure. We can delegate tasks to others, but we cannot delegate our responsibility for our personal spiritual walk and holiness.

Thursday: Proverbs 22:1-9. Verse 5 reminds us of the need to "guard our soul". How do you do this practically in your life? What do you avoid and what do you build into your life to do this? What might you change to bring about an improvement in how well your soul is guarded?

Friday: Ezekiel 46:1-24. It is unclear who "the prince" in these chapters refers to, but some principles are clear, and one is referred to in verse 18: Leaders must not abuse their powers or treat others unfairly. Who looks to you for a lead? Family members? Co-workers? Others in Church? How does this principle of fairness apply to you?

Saturday: Hebrews 4:1-11. We are called to enter into God's rest, and that can take great effort according to this verse! Mark Stibbe says that "We are not called to rest from ministry, but to minister from a place of rest." Notice that entering into that rest requires us to exercise faith (v2), and indeed a failure to exercise faith is the main reason we fall short of the rest that God promises. What efforts do you need to make to reach that place of rest? What should you do to ensure you serve others from that place of rest?