



Devotional

April 12 - June 27

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WEEK ONE (APRIL 12–18)

Day 103: April 12, 2020

Full Plan: 2 Chronicles 25:1–28:27

Abbreviated Plan: 2 Chronicles 36:1–23

This long list of kings reinforces this continual point about the human condition. No one is perfect. Even the “good” ones have their flaws and make grievous errors. Holiness requires constant attentiveness and God’s grace.

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 104: April 13, 2020

Full Plan: 2 Chronicles 29:1–32:33

Abbreviated Plan: Ezra 1:1–8; 2:68–70

Hezekiah was one of the rare good kings in Judah. To be like him, we must 1) preserve our worship of God, 2) faithfully obey God, 3) and seek God with all our heart. (2 Chron. 31:21).

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 105: April 14, 2020

Full Plan: 2 Chronicles 33:1–36:23

Abbreviated Plan: Ezra 3:1–13; Ezra 4:1–5

Pretty simple contrast today. Manasseh or Josiah? Which one will I be more like today?

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 106: April 15, 2020

Full Plan: Ezra 1:1–3:13

Abbreviated Plan: Ezra 7:1–15; Ezra 9:1–15

The book of Ezra opens with the joyous return of the exiles and the rebuilding of the Temple. Paul said that our bodies are the “Temple of the Holy Spirit.” (1 Corinthians 6:19) In what ways is God wanting to do a rebuilding project on your life?

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 107: April 16, 2020

Full Plan: Ezra 4:1–6:22

Abbreviated Plan: Nehemiah 2:1–10, 17–20; 4:1–23

Any work of building the kingdom of God will attract opposition. When those barriers arise, we need to be steadfast in our resolve, to boldly say, “We are the servants of God.” (Ezra 5:11). How might God be strengthening you to face those in opposition to the work you are doing for God?

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 108: April 17, 2020

Full Plan: Ezra 7:1–10:44

Abbreviated Plan: Nehemiah 8:1–6

Ezra’s prayer not only offered confession for disobedience. It also motivated the people to remember who God is. Living by faith is not just getting our behaviors right. It is about being more attentive to what God is doing.

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

Day 109: April 18, 2020

Full Plan: Nehemiah 1:1–4:23

Abbreviated Plan: Nehemiah 9:1–38

Nehemiah prayed, then God called him to be the answer to his own prayer. He saw the devastation, and God called him to be the agent of restoration. That's sometimes what happens when we pray: God summons us to be the answer to our own prayers. How might you be the answer to your prayers for the world?

What God is revealing to me today, and how I will apply it to my life:

April 12–18, 2020: Weekly Devotion by Bernie Lieving

The first three Bible readings for this 1st week of Easter are not what we might expect. They go into great detail to tell the saga of twelve kings of Judah who reigned a total of 252 years, from Jehoahaz's three months to Manasseh's fifty-five years.

Three of the kings "did what was right in the sight of the Lord; were good, and right, and faithful." A couple "did what was right and yet became proud or ordered his ways before the Lord's."

The majority, despite God's merciful dealings with them and God's people, despite the prophetic warnings and the influence