

# Reading Plan for June

## Book of 1 Samuel

### Preparing Your Heart for This Reading Plan

This month, we will journey through the book of **1 Samuel**, a rich narrative of God's guidance, faithfulness, and the rise of Israel's first king. 1 Samuel invites us to see God at work in moments of leadership, obedience, and covenant faithfulness, and to consider how He calls ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary purposes.

This reading plan is designed to be completed in **25 days**, with one chapter per day, allowing space for daily Scripture reading, personal journaling, and weekly reflection through devotions. As you read, ask the Lord to speak to your heart, reveal His character, and show you how He is forming your faith and calling today. At the end of the month, we will gather on the "**At The Table**" podcast to reflect together on what God has shown us and to share insights from this journey.

### About the Book of 1 Samuel

**Author:** While the exact author is not definitively known, Jewish tradition and many scholars attribute 1 Samuel to **Samuel**. It is the first of the historical books of the monarchy period, chronicling Israel's transition from judges to kings.

**Content Overview:** 1 Samuel tells the story of God raising leaders and guiding His people through pivotal moments, including:

- The birth and calling of Samuel
- Israel's struggles under the judges
- God's rejection of Saul as king and the rise of David
- Moments of obedience, failure, and God's covenant faithfulness

This book reveals God as **Sovereign, Faithful, and Redeemer**, calling His people to trust Him through leadership, obedience, and times of uncertainty.

### Reading Plan Overview

- **Duration:** 25 days of daily Scripture reading (one to two chapters per day)
- **Weekly:** One devotional reflection per week
- **Encouragement:** Journal what the Lord reveals to you
- **Gathering:** Join us at the end of the month on "**At The Table**" for discussion and shared reflection

## WEEK ONE

**Day 1:** 1 Samuel 1

**Day 2:** 1 Samuel 2

**Day 3:** 1 Samuel 3

**Day 4:** 1 Samuel 4

### Devotion

Samuel was set apart to serve the Lord in a time of deep spiritual corruption. While Eli's sons openly dishonored God, Samuel remained faithful. God's judgment fell on Eli's household; not only because of his sons' sin, but because **Eli's failure to confront and restrain them**. Instead of repentance and decisive action, Eli responded with passive acceptance. Whether driven by fear of conflict, a desire to keep peace, or simple complacency, Eli protected relationships and personal ease rather than the honor of the Lord. This chapter reminds us that honoring the Lord also means addressing sin.

### Reflection

As parents or those with influence over others: Are we courageously confronting sin and ungodly behavior? Or are we allowing fear of conflict, comfort, and complacency to take priority over honoring God?

## WEEK TWO

**Day 5:** 1 Samuel 5 - 6

**Day 6:** 1 Samuel 7 - 8

**Day 7:** 1 Samuel 9

**Day 8:** 1 Samuel 10

**Day 9:** 1 Samuel 11

**Day 10:** 1 Samuel 12

**Day 11:** 1 Samuel 13

### Devotion

Saul was chosen by God to be the first king of Israel. However, as Saul waited for Samuel before battle, *fear* and *impatience* took over, he stepped into a role God had not given him, by offering the sacrifice himself. What seemed like a small decision was actually a serious act of dishonor to the Lord. He was called to be a king, not a priest. His impatience cost him more than a moment, it cost him the future God desired for him and his lineage. This passage reminds us that when we trust our own judgment over God's timing, we risk forfeiting what He wants to build through us and beyond us. Waiting is often the very thing that protects the promise.

### Reflection

What habits can you cultivate to grow in patience and self-control?

## WEEK THREE

**Day 12:** 1 Samuel 14

**Day 13:** 1 Samuel 15

**Day 14:** 1 Samuel 16

**Day 15:** 1 Samuel 17

**Day 16:** 1 Samuel 18 - 19

**Day 17:** 1 Samuel 20

**Day 18:** 1 Samuel 21

### Devotion

When Samuel arrived to anoint Israel's next king, even this seasoned man of God assumed the most visually impressive son must be the Lord's choice. But God gently corrected him: *"Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."* One by one, Jesse's sons passed before Samuel, until it became clear that God's chosen was not among those standing there. David, the one not even invited, was who Lord had chosen. This passage challenges us deeply. Even when we love God and desire to honor Him, we can still be led by appearances, if not careful. We may unintentionally be missing what God might want to do right in front of us.

### Reflection:

Where might God be at work that you're tempted to overlook because it doesn't match your expectations?

## WEEK FOUR

**Day 19:** 1 Samuel 22 - 23

**Day 20:** 1 Samuel 24

**Day 21:** 1 Samuel 25

**Day 22:** 1 Samuel 26

**Day 23:** 1 Samuel 27 -28

**Day 24:** 1 Samuel 29 - 30

**Day 25:** 1 Samuel 31

### Devotion

David was hunted by Saul, misunderstood by many, and forced into years of exile, *all being anointed and obedient while walking faithfully with God*. His suffering can feel unfair. If he was chosen and obedient, why were the years that followed were marked by persecution, loneliness, and injustice? David's story teaches us that **being chosen by God does not exempt us from suffering**. Instead, suffering often becomes the very tool God uses to shape us. Through it, David learned compassion for the broken, mercy toward those who wronged him, and deep dependence on the Lord. What felt unfair was not wasted, it was preparation.

**Reflection**

Where might God be using a season of misunderstanding or suffering to deepen your dependence on Him and prepare you for what's next?