

Study Guide for the Week of February 24, 2008

This study guide is designed to help you to become more familiar with the Bible. Study these passages on your own, with a friend, or with a group. If you or someone you know needs a Bible, please take one from under a chair in the Worship Center. They are there for you to take home and use! Sermon manuscripts are available at www.spwired.com.

Monday, February 25 – Aaron talked about how unhealthy pride feeds rebellion. How would you define unhealthy pride? How would you define healthy pride? **Read Proverbs 11:2, Proverbs 29:23 and Romans 12:2.** How do readings like this help you identify unhealthy pride inside of you?

Tuesday, February 26 – Paul spent a good part of his life rebelling against God's call for him to lead the early church. Instead he tried to eliminate the early church. Today's reading is Paul's story as he shares it with a king. Pay close attention to verse 14. **Read Acts chapter 26.** Aaron talked about how rebelling against God's authority can wound us. In verse 14 we see the passage where Jesus tells Paul not to kick against the goads. Goads are meant to guide but if kicked against, they can wound. How is this like God's guidance in your life? In what ways might you have kicked against the goads?

Wednesday, February 27 – Today's reading gives us a glimpse of David's understanding of authority. Saul was trying to kill David, but suddenly David had the chance to kill Saul but did not. **Read 1 Samuel chapter 26.** How is David submitting to an authority that he did not respect? How was he living out submission to God's authority? Do you have to live under an authority figure or structure you do not respect? How might God work through that situation anyway?

Thursday, February 28 – **Read Ephesians 6:1-3 and Proverbs 3:7-8.** How do these passages describe some of the consequences of rebellion and submission? How do these passages relate to your life?

Friday, February 29 – Today we revisit a key passage from last week's readings. **Read Romans 13:1-5.** What is Paul saying here about submitting to authorities? What are the consequences of not submitting? Do you agree that rebelling against these authorities is the same as rebelling against God? How do you agree or disagree? What was Paul's main point here? How might that main point apply to your life?