

Theme: God's guidance

Day 1 Psalm 32:1-9 God guides a person whom he has forgiven

¹ Blessed is the one
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.
² Blessed is the one
whose sin the LORD does not count against them
and in whose spirit is no deceit.
³ When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
⁴ For day and night
your hand was heavy on me;
my strength was sapped
as in the heat of summer.
⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.
I said, "I will confess
my transgressions to the LORD."
And you forgave
the guilt of my sin.
⁶ Therefore let all the faithful pray to you
while you may be found;
surely the rising of the mighty waters
will not reach them.
⁷ You are my hiding place;
you will protect me from trouble
and surround me with songs of deliverance.
⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should
go;
I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.
⁹ Do not be like the horse or the mule,
which have no understanding
but must be controlled by bit and bridle
or they will not come to you.

Day 2 Psalm 119:97-105 God guides a person who loves his Word

⁹⁷ Oh, how I love your law!
I meditate on it all day long.
⁹⁸ Your commands are always with me
and make me wiser than my enemies.
⁹⁹ I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes.
¹⁰⁰ I have more understanding than the elders,
for I obey your precepts.
¹⁰¹ I have kept my feet from every evil path
so that I might obey your word.
¹⁰² I have not departed from your laws,
for you yourself have taught me.
¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my taste,

sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴ I gain understanding from your precepts;
therefore I hate every wrong path.

¹ Nun

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path.

Day 3 Psalm 143:7-10 God guides you by means of your quiet time – your daily reading of the Bible and prayer

⁷ Answer me quickly, LORD;
my spirit fails.
Do not hide your face from me
or I will be like those who go down to the pit.
⁸ Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,
for I have put my trust in you.
Show me the way I should go,
for to you I entrust my life.
⁹ Rescue me from my enemies, LORD,
for I hide myself in you.
¹⁰ Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God;
may your good Spirit
lead me on level ground.

Day 4 2 Timothy 3:14-17 God's guidance through his Holy Spirit is never in conflict with his guidance through his Word (the Bible) (cf. Ephesians 6:17)

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and
have become convinced of, because you know those from
whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have
known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you
wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All
Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching,
rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so
that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for
every good work.

¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit,
which is the word of God.

Day 5 ^{BS} **Jeremiah 23:16-32**

God does not guide by means of every prophet, vision or dream. He guides through his Word

¹⁶This is what the LORD Almighty says:
“Do not listen to what the prophets are prophesying to you; they fill you with false hopes.
They speak visions from their own minds,
not from the mouth of the LORD.
¹⁷They keep saying to those who despise me,
‘The LORD says: You will have peace.’
And to all who follow the stubbornness of their hearts they say, ‘No harm will come to you.’
¹⁸But which of them has stood in the council of the LORD to see or to hear his word?
Who has listened and heard his word?
¹⁹See, the storm of the LORD
will burst out in wrath,
a whirlwind swirling down
on the heads of the wicked.
²⁰The anger of the LORD will not turn back
until he fully accomplishes the purposes of his heart.
In days to come you will understand it clearly.
²¹I did not send these prophets,
yet they have run with their message;
I did not speak to them, yet they have prophesied.
²²But if they had stood in my council,
they would have proclaimed my words to my people
and would have turned them from their evil ways
and from their evil deeds.
²³“Am I only a God nearby,” declares the LORD,
“and not a God far away?”
²⁴Who can hide in secret places
so that I cannot see them?” declares the LORD.
“Do not I fill heaven and earth?” declares the LORD.
²⁵“I have heard what the prophets say who prophesy lies
in my name. They say, ‘I had a dream! I had a dream!’
²⁶How long will this continue in the hearts of these lying
prophets, who prophesy the delusions of their own minds?
²⁷They think the dreams they tell one another will make
my people forget my name, just as their ancestors forgot
my name through Baal worship. ²⁸Let the prophet who
has a dream recount the dream, but let the one who has
my word speak it faithfully. For what has straw to do with
grain?” declares the LORD. ²⁹“Is not my word like fire,”
declares the LORD, “and like a hammer that breaks a rock
in pieces?
³⁰“Therefore,” declares the LORD, “I am against the
prophets who steal from one another words supposedly
from me. ³¹Yes,” declares the LORD, “I am against the
prophets who wag their own tongues and yet declare, ‘The
LORD declares.’ ³²Indeed, I am against those who
prophesy false dreams,” declares the LORD. “They tell
them and lead my people astray with their reckless lies, yet
I did not send or appoint them. They do not benefit these
people in the least,” declares the LORD.

Day 6 **Isaiah 30:1-5,9-22**

**God does not guide a rebellious person.
He guides a person who waits upon him**

¹“Woe to the obstinate children,” declares the LORD, “to
those who carry out plans that are not mine, forming an
alliance, but not by my Spirit, heaping sin upon sin;
²who go down to Egypt without consulting me; who look
for help to Pharaoh’s protection, to Egypt’s shade for
refuge.
³But Pharaoh’s protection will be to your shame,
Egypt’s shade will bring you disgrace.
⁴Though they have officials in Zoan
and their envoys have arrived in Hanes,
⁵everyone will be put to shame because of a people useless
to them, who bring neither help nor advantage,
but only shame and disgrace.”
⁹For these are rebellious people, deceitful children,
children unwilling to listen to the LORD’s instruction.
¹⁰They say to the seers, “See no more visions!”
and to the prophets, “Give us no more visions of what is
right! Tell us pleasant things, prophesy illusions.
¹¹Leave this way, get off this path, and stop confronting us
with the Holy One of Israel!”
¹²Therefore this is what the Holy One of Israel says:
“Because you have rejected this message,
relied on oppression and depended on deceit,
¹³this sin will become for you like a high wall, cracked and
bulging, that collapses suddenly, in an instant.
¹⁴It will break in pieces like pottery, shattered so
mercilessly that among its pieces not a fragment will be
found for taking coals from a hearth or scooping water out
of a cistern.”
¹⁵This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of
Israel, says:
“In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and
trust is your strength, but you would have none of it.
¹⁶You said, ‘No, we will flee on horses.’ Therefore you will
flee! You said, ‘We will ride off on swift horses.’ Therefore
your pursuers will be swift!
¹⁷A thousand will flee at the threat of one; at the threat of
five you will all flee away, till you are left like a flagstaff on
a mountaintop, like a banner on a hill.”
¹⁸Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; therefore he
will rise up to show you compassion. For the LORD is a
God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!
¹⁹People of Zion, who live in Jerusalem, you will weep no
more. How gracious he will be when you cry for help! As
soon as he hears, he will answer you. ²⁰Although the Lord
gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction,
your teachers will be hidden no more; with your own eyes
you will see them. ²¹Whether you turn to the right or to
the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying,
“This is the way; walk in it.” ²²Then you will desecrate
your idols overlaid with silver and your images covered
with gold; you will throw them away like a menstrual
cloth and say to them, “Away with you!”

Day 7 Proverbs 1:20-33

God does not guide a person as long as he neglects God's previous guidance

²⁰ Out in the open wisdom calls aloud,
she raises her voice in the public square;
²¹ on top of the wall she cries out,
at the city gate she makes her speech:
²² "How long will you who are simple love your simple ways?
How long will mockers delight in mockery
and fools hate knowledge?
²³ Repent at my rebuke!
Then I will pour out my thoughts to you,
I will make known to you my teachings.
²⁴ But since you refuse to listen when I call
and no one pays attention when I stretch out my hand,
²⁵ since you disregard all my advice
and do not accept my rebuke,
²⁶ I in turn will laugh when disaster strikes you;
I will mock when calamity overtakes you—
²⁷ when calamity overtakes you like a storm,
when disaster sweeps over you like a whirlwind,
when distress and trouble overwhelm you.
²⁸ "Then they will call to me but I will not answer;
they will look for me but will not find me,
²⁹ since they hated knowledge
and did not choose to fear the LORD.
³⁰ Since they would not accept my advice
and spurned my rebuke,
³¹ they will eat the fruit of their ways
and be filled with the fruit of their schemes.
³² For the waywardness of the simple will kill them,
and the complacency of fools will destroy them;
³³ but whoever listens to me will live in safety
and be at ease, without fear of harm."

Day 8 Judges 6:11-21,36-40

God guides Gideon first by speaking to him and then confirms his guidance with a sign Gideon asked

¹¹ The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. ¹² When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior."
¹³ "Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, 'Did not the LORD bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the LORD has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian."
¹⁴ The LORD turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?"
¹⁵ "Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family."
¹⁶ The LORD answered, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive."
¹⁷ Gideon replied, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, give me a sign that it is really you talking to me. ¹⁸ Please do not go away until I come back and bring my offering and set it before you."
And the LORD said, "I will wait until you return."
¹⁹ Gideon went inside, prepared a young goat, and from an ephah of flour he made bread without yeast. Putting the meat in a basket and its broth in a pot, he brought them out and offered them to him under the oak.
²⁰ The angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened bread, place them on this rock, and pour out the broth." And Gideon did so. ²¹ Then the angel of the LORD touched the meat and the unleavened bread with the tip of the staff that was in his hand. Fire flared from the rock, consuming the meat and the bread. And the angel of the LORD disappeared.
³⁶ Gideon said to God, "If you will save Israel by my hand as you have promised— ³⁷ look, I will place a wool fleece on the threshing floor. If there is dew only on the fleece and all the ground is dry, then I will know that you will save Israel by my hand, as you said." ³⁸ And that is what happened. Gideon rose early the next day; he squeezed the fleece and wrung out the dew—a bowlful of water.
³⁹ Then Gideon said to God, "Do not be angry with me. Let me make just one more request. Allow me one more test with the fleece, but this time make the fleece dry and let the ground be covered with dew." ⁴⁰ That night God did so. Only the fleece was dry; all the ground was covered with dew.

Day 9 Deuteronomy 18:9-22
God never guides by means of occultism.
He guides by means of his Prophet
(singular: Acts 3:22).

⁹When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you, do not learn to imitate the detestable ways of the nations there. ¹⁰Let no one be found among you who sacrifices their son or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft, ¹¹or casts spells, or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. ¹²Anyone who does these things is detestable to the LORD; because of these same detestable practices the LORD your God will drive out those nations before you. ¹³You must be blameless before the LORD your God.

¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. ¹⁶For 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."

¹⁷The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. ¹⁸I 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. ¹⁹I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. ²⁰But 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."

²¹You may say to yourselves, "How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?" ²²If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously, so do not be alarmed.

²²For Moses said, "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you.

Day 10 Isaiah 8:11-20
God never guides by means of the spirits of the dead. He guides by means of his Word.

¹¹This is what the LORD says to me with his strong hand upon me, warning me not to follow the way of this people:

¹²"Do not call conspiracy everything this people calls a conspiracy; do not fear what they fear, and do not dread it.

¹³The LORD Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy, he is the one you are to fear, he is the one you are to dread.

¹⁴He will be a holy place; for both Israel and Judah he will be a stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall. And for the people of Jerusalem he will be a trap and a snare.

¹⁵Many of them will stumble; they will fall and be broken, they will be snared and captured."

¹⁶Bind up this testimony of warning and seal up God's instruction among my disciples.

¹⁷I will wait for the LORD, who is hiding his face from the descendants of Jacob. I will put my trust in him.

¹⁸Here am I, and the children the LORD has given me. We are signs and symbols in Israel from the LORD Almighty, who dwells on Mount Zion.

¹⁹When someone tells you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people inquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰Consult God's instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn.