



MOUNT SINAI MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

BIBLE STUDY

“The Chosen Leader”

Lesson 1: A Handle on Prosperity

Scripture: I Samuel 18:5-19

LESSON OBJECTIVE: To understand that Christians are to live a life of prosperity

What is the first word that comes to mind when you think of prosperity?

QUESTION: What does it mean to prosper?

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE: 3 John 2: (Write out this verse)

3 John 2 used the word prosper. The original Greek Word is **euodoō**. The root words help us to understand the meaning of the Greek word, prosper -- well done and journey. So, when we put these two words together, it means to do well on your journey. In other words, do well in every area of life.

John was writing to Gaius, who obviously was sick or dealing with a sickness. John was encouraging him that despite the sickness or disease you can still be prosperous. John is praying for his health, just as he is also praying for his soul. How does one's soul grow and prosper? You grow in the fruit of the spirit:

Love	Joy	Peace	Faith	Meekness
Longsuffering	Gentleness	Goodness	Self-control	

Write the scripture/verse for the fruit of the Spirit: _____

You can prosper and be successful in every area of your living. You can excel, you can be accomplished, and you can grow. The first area of your growth is in your personal relationship with Jesus Christ. To be born again means to grow in a love relationship with Christ and allow His spirit to govern your life. If you allow Jesus to govern your life, then you will prosper in your soul, thinking, decisions, and emotions. You will be stable and be at peace as God blesses you. God delights in the prosperity of his servants, Psalm 35:27.

Main Scripture: I Samuel 18:5, "So David went out wherever Saul sent him, and prospered."

Lesson Background:

1. I Samuel 16:12 - David is chosen and **anointed** to be the next king
2. I Samuel 16:18 – Recognize David's skills
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
 - e. _____

"And the Lord was with him."

3. I Samuel 16:21 – He becomes Saul armor bearer
4. I Samuel 17:26 – He is not afraid of a challenge
5. I Samuel 17:41-50 - He defeats Goliath
6. I Samuel 17:55-59 – Saul doesn't even recognize him
7. I Samuel 18:1 – He is befriended by Jonathan, Saul's son
8. I Samuel 18:4: - Jonathan strips himself and clothes David:
 - a. Robe
 - b. Armor
 - c. Sword
 - d. Bow
 - e. Belt

Elements of Prosperity

I. Do Your Job – I Samuel 18:5

Work corresponds with action. If you want to eat, you have to work. Money does not fall from the sky. Look at work as God's avenue to which He wants to bless you. As you work your job, do it unto the glory of God and He is faithful to bless us.

Read Joshua 1:6-8 – What do these verses say about success?

Read Psalm 1:1-3 – What do these verses say about prosperity?

Definition of Bless: The ability to be happy and succeed in the midst of adversity

Have you noticed that when a cat falls, it always lands on its feet? You have that same ability that when you work and go through adversity, because you are blessed, you can land on your feet!

You can be prosperous but know there is a before and after story. We have all seen the before and after pictures of people. Notice that the “after” doesn’t look good until you see the “before.” When you see the “after,” the person looks so happy.

Read Proverbs 10:4

Work is not a dirty word. If we are to be prosperous we have to work diligently. The scripture lets us know that people become poor because they are lazy and do not want to work.

Read Proverbs 6:6-8

If you watch ants they are constantly moving, and nothing distracts them as they work. If you want to prosper, you cannot be distracted in your work. The ant in scripture is wise. We are to take notes from the ant and be wise in our work ethics.

EXAMPLE: Debt-free living. If you want to be debt-free, first make a commitment to get out of debt. Second, commit to working hard. Third, pray and ask God to make provisions for you to earn income (additional) to put towards the debt. Fourth, watch God honor your hard work.

Read Proverbs 10:22

God has a plan for your life, which includes abundance in every area. Do not be afraid to start small. Matthew 6:33 tells us to seek God first and all other things will be given to us. You have to make seeking God your first priority and He will lead you to a career or work that will bring Him glory and help you to exceed your needs.

- II. Develop a Big Picture** – See yourself doing. Then, set out to learn as much as you can about your job or ministry duties. Learn about the future of your chosen field or profession.
- III. Identify Your Passion-** What are you passionate about? What type of job, talent, or skill do you love to do?
- IV. Identify Your Skills and Talents** - Your talent is that thing that you do well and enjoy doing. Skill means you require training in order to be good.
- V. Take Advantage of the Opportunity:** When given an opportunity, do your very best at what it is. If you are seeking a position, ask yourself, “which position allows me the best chance to be excellent at what I do?”

Write down your responses to the above:

VI. Expect Jealously, vs. 8

Read I Samuel 18:14-16 - Despite Saul, David was still prospering. Why? **David was God's chosen and anointed leader.**

When people are jealous of you, it really means that they are afraid of you, vs. 12

Do not become distracted by other's jealousy of you. It may be an inconvenience to your life, but it is all preparation for the next step in the journey.