

AS A COURTESY TO OUR SPEAKERS, PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES.

Weekly Announcements

- **WELCOME!** If you are new to WBS today, please stop by the registration table so we can place you in a small group.
- **PLEASE WELCOME CARMEN LIVINGOOD:** Carmen has recently been hired to fill Michelle Johnson's position as Outreach and Discipleship Administrative Assistant. Please direct WBS questions or concerns to Carmen. She is available at the registration table weekly as well as via phone at 288-8880 or by email at Livingood.carmen@autumnridgechurch.org.
- **"ULTIMATE DATE NIGHT" VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** If you can help cut and plate dessert for the Ultimate Date Night event this Friday, February 10, from 5:30-7:00 pm, please see Carmen Livingood at the registration table today. (Tickets are also available in Christos BookCenter for this event – couples \$40 and tables \$120.) Thank you for serving!
- **THIS WEEK PRAY FOR:**
 - ~ Teaching wisdom and insight for Jann Wright as she prepares to teach next week
 - ~ All aspects of student ministries
 - ~ Women will choose to follow the wisdom of God rather than the wisdom of the world
- **PRAYER MINISTRY:** Now meets on Wednesday morning following WBS. All are welcome to join Karen Anderle in the Hyde Room from 11:15-12:15 each week to pray for our church, community, and world.
- **IF WE CAN HELP:** If you have questions or concerns about WBS, please let us know how we can help. Email us wbs@autumnridgechurch.org.
- **DEVOTED HEARTS CONFERENCE 2012:** Registration for this year's event for women on April 20-21 is currently taking place. Tickets are \$40 until March 19 with additional box lunch for \$7 and are available at Christos or online. For more information or to purchase tickets please go to www.devotedheartsrochester.com.

Dear Friends,

I have a confession to make.

Every time I read through the Bible my least favorite and most avoided books are the history books 1-2 Samuel, 1-2 Kings and 1-2 Chronicles. So every year, I put off reading these until I've read all the other books and have no excuses. And then I dutifully plow through them. This doesn't make sense. I was a history major at college, and I really enjoy the Bible's other O.T. history books (Joshua, Judges, Ruth, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther) and the bits of history I find in the prophets. But the 1-2 books just haven't grabbed me in the past.

However, when I finished last year's read through I turned right around and began reading Samuel, Kings and Chronicles again in January, but this time with far more attention. You see, THIS time I knew I had to teach from them. And I have to say that these books, especially the Chronicles version of the 1-2 Kings era history, have just come alive. Suddenly everything's making sense. I'm figuring out cause and effect, and the legacy between generations. I'm taking time to look at the maps and read the footnotes. And of course, each time I teach or write overviews I'm reading many extra commentaries and books.

When we have a sense of responsibility for something we pay far more attention. If these books are difficult for me, then it's all the more important that I find a way to teach that will make them come alive for you. Part of it is answered prayer – I always ask God to bless and help all our teachers, including me, to prepare well and have insight into the scriptures – but another part of it is the actual preparation. When we're forced to learn something well enough to explain it to others, we always engage more with the material.

So I'm going to challenge you. If you're finding the Old Testament dry as dust, it means that God isn't answering our prayers (so we need to get back on our knees). ☺ But you can help your own enjoyment and understanding by reading the passages ahead of time, using a good study Bible. For this particular series I'm finding the ESV Study Bible excellent because of the footnotes, although I also draw from the NIV, NKJV and NLT Study Bibles routinely when I teach. If you read the footnotes along with the passage you'll really come to understand more. The effort you invest will pay off in your enjoyment of this series. So c'mon, let's all become Bible scholars and see what God has to teach us through Kings and Kingdoms: God's Hand in Israel's History.

Your friend,

Gretchen Steer

Weekly materials can be downloaded from the Autumn Ridge Church Website:
<http://autumnridgechurch.org/adult/women/wbs.html>

If you have questions, please contact us at wbs@autumnridgechurch.org

Kings & Kingdoms:

God's Sovereign Hand in Israel's History



Today's speaker:
Gretchen Steer

Passage:
1 Kings 5-11:13

Our Topic:
The Unwise King Solomon:
Part II

I. Solomon's Building Projects – Two Palaces and a Temple (1 Kings 5:1-9:9)

II. Solomon's Influence (1 Kings 9:10-10:13)

III. Solomon's Splendor (1 Kings 10:14-29)

IV. Solomon's Wives (1 Kings 11:1-8)

V. Solomon's Legacy (1 Kings 11:9-13)

VI. Two questions:
1) Am I d_____?
2) What is my l_____?

Timeline of Kings:

Note that these are not all of the kings from this time period but only the ones we will be studying.

