

WE THREE KINGS

Snapshots from the lives of Saul, David and Solomon

Group Leaders' Notes

intro

Welcome to “We Three Kings”, a series of studies in the lives of Kings Saul, David and Solomon. Over the next few weeks we are going to be examining selected incidents from 1 and 2 Samuel and reflecting on what we can learn from the successes and failure of these three key figures from Israel’s history.

format

The general format of the studies will be familiar. Each will include some discussion starter material, ideas for worshipping together in your group, the Bible study and suggestions for prayer or response after the study. As you plan the study you will need to think through how long each section is likely to take in your group setting and if necessary make some changes – please do ensure that some elements of the evening are not squeezed out by other over-running. Based on the feedback I have received I will be trying to make the Bible Study section a little shorter to make this easier.

As with previous series of studies, part of the reason for dividing the material in this way is to allow you to involve more people in the leadership of a meeting. Sure, you could easily do it all yourself and it might even be less work to do so, but how much more beneficial for the group if you involved a number of people in leading different sections of the study.

bible background

Something new is the inclusion of some background material to try to set the scene and context of the studies. Most weeks there will be a “Back-Page Background” section which does not really form part of the study but gives some (hopefully helpful) background to it. I would suggest that you summarise a few points from it at the start, or bring them in when they are relevant. If you just read it out you will probably bore everyone to tears! I am seeking copyright permission to use some maps and diagrams to illustrate this background material, although if I am able to do so it will almost certainly mean that I can only include it on the printed copies and not on the version on the website.

don't be bound...

As ever, please treat these studies as a resource not a restriction and feel free to amend them as the needs of your group dictate. A healthy small group spends quality time socialising together, and significant time praying for one another. Please don't allow the need to ‘finish the studies’ to push these other important activities out of your programme.