October 22nd Readings

2 SAMUEL 4:1-6:23

JOHN 13:31-14:14

PSALM 119:17-32

PROVERBS 15:31-32

David was a leader of men even before being anointed as king of Israel. He acted within God's will, and expected his men to do so as well. He inquired of God, and was successful in claiming the entire land in the name of God Almighty. His household was blessed, and he worshiped with all his might so that God would be glorified.

Understanding the ways and will of God is possible through reading his word and following his instruction. Action sometimes comes before understanding, but when we obey God, the understanding will come.

Jesus commanded us to love one another, and through this love and our obedience to His commands, we show the glory of God to those around us. We show the light of Christ to others when we glorify him by our actions. We glorify God by our love for others and keeping his commands. We glorify God with obedient faith.

October 23rd Readings

2 SAMUEL 7:1-8:18

JOHN 14:15-31

PSALM 119:33-48

PROVERBS 15:33

Even though David was not allowed to build the temple, he worshiped and acknowledged God in everything. His name and his family would be blessed through all generations.

Jesus emphasizes that we show our love for him through keeping his command to love others. God will teach us his ways and give us understanding. We keep his commands because of our love for him. Through our obedience, we will be blessed eternally.

October 24th Readings

2 SAMUEL 9:1-11:27

JOHN 15:1-27

PSALM 119:49-64

PROVERBS 16:1-3

David was a mighty man and a fearless leader. He protected and defended his people, and inspired loyalty. With all of this success, David showed his humanity by putting his own desires ahead of God's commands. Trying to correct his mistake on his own, he made an even bigger mess of things, first in trying to hide his sin, then even to the point of committing murder. He honored himself rather than God.

Proverbs 16:4-5 "The Lord works out everything to its proper end – even the wicked for a day of disaster. The Lord detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished."

Jesus reminds us that we must remain within the will of God. God knows our motives, and will bless us beyond measure when those motives are to honor him.

October 25th Readings

2 SAMUEL 12:1-31

JOHN 16:1-33

PSALM 119:65-80

PROVERBS 16:4-5

In 2 Samuel Nathan is sent to David to rebuke him for the great evil that he has done. This story is a great reminder to us about how easy it is to convince ourselves that we can hide our sins from other brothers, when in fact all our actions have consequences.

Just as the truth was revealed to David by Nathan, Christ tells his disciples that the truth of God's will and kingdom will be revealed to them and us when the Holy Spirit comes into us.

October 26th Readings

2 SAMUEL 13:1-39

JOHN 17:1-26

PSALM 119:81-96

PROVERBS 16:6-7

John 17 is a beautiful prayer from Jesus. In this prayer, Jesus glorifies God and lifts up believers to God, asking that they remain faithful and that they continue as one in Him and apart from the world.

It is hard to imagine how overwhelming it would have been to be in the physical presence of Jesus as he prayed to God on your behalf. It is also very uplifting to know that this prayer is still uplifting and encouraging us today as Christians.

October 27th Readings

2 SAMUEL 14:1-15:22

JOHN 18:1-24

PSALM 119:97-112

PROVERBS 16:8-9

In today's reading, we see the prophecy of God taking place in the life of David and in the earthly life of Jesus.

David's sins caused him much-deserved pain, but Christ was perfect and still bore the pain of all sin.

In Proverbs 16:9 we are reminded that no matter our plans, God will set the way.

October 28th Readings

2 SAMUEL 15:23-16:23

JOHN 18:25-19:22

PSALM 119:113-128

PROVERBS 16:10-11

David demonstrated thinking the best of others when he accepted the curses of Shimei as if they were from God.

Jesus answered Pilate with truth, knowing his very life was in danger.

We should remember to "consider all God's precepts right" even when personally threatened. Calm assurance with truth can be more convicting than any words we might say.