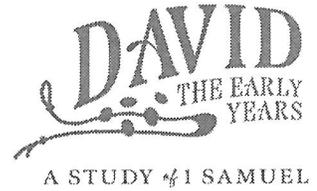


1 SAMUEL 29-30

April 20-21, 2022



1. As we approach each day, it is easy to forget that God's sovereign purposes are at work in our lives. What do Psalm 33:10-11 and Romans 8:28 teach us about this truth?
2. David is now living with the Philistines to escape King Saul's pursuits. Read 1 Samuel 27:5-7 and explain how Achish, the king of Gath, fulfilled David's specific desires.
3. Read 1 Samuel 28:1. What predicament presents itself to David?

David may have feared Israel's king, but what were David's feelings toward Israel? Read David's words about Israel in Psalm 144:12-15.

4. Read 1 Samuel 29:1-5 as the Philistines prepare to battle Israel. Compare the arguments of the Philistine commanders with the arguments of Achish concerning David's involvement in the coming battle. What are their main points?

Read 1 Samuel 29:4-5 again along with earlier events in 1 Samuel 17:50-51 and 18:6-7. What frightening memory is ingrained in the hearts of the Philistine commanders?

Where do you see God's sovereignty at work in the commanders' protests as David faced a battle against the country he will one day lead?

Can you share a time when you were facing a difficult situation and God sovereignly and unexpectedly intervened on your behalf?

5. Read 1 Samuel 29:6-11. List all of Achish's compliments of David.

In 1 Samuel 27:8-12, we learned that while David pretended to serve the interests of Achish, he was actually attacking the enemies of Israel. What was the result of David's deception in 27:12 that we now witness in 29:6-11?

6. Read 1 Samuel 30:1-5 and summarize the devastation David and his men discovered when they returned to Ziklag.

If you were a reporter writing about this event, what would you title it?

Read 1 Samuel 30:6. Compare the actions of David's men with the action of David when they faced this great tragedy.

Why is it important to lean on God when we face great trials, instead of giving in to bitterness? Read the following verses and record your insights.

Proverbs 28:14

Ephesians 4:26-27

Ephesians 4:30-31

Philippians 4:11-13

7. David chose to seek God's direction in 1 Samuel 30:7-10. What can we admire about David in these verses? Remember the ephod was the high priest's apron-like garment which contained the sacred stones Urim and Thummim, used to discern the will of God.

What is one action of David here that you can apply to your life when facing conflict?

8. Read 1 Samuel 30:11-15. What can we deduce about the Amalekite master of this servant when he tells David his story?

Why had God sovereignly put this Egyptian in David's path?

Note in 1 Samuel 30:14-15 the way that David handles this man who admits being one of those who ravaged their city. What is surprising?

9. Read 1 Samuel 30:16-20 and record what David sees when he comes to their land.

Find the verses in 30:16-20 that point to David as the victor over the Amalekites. Jot down his victories.

10. Read 1 Samuel 30:21-25. How did David treat the two hundred men that did not go into battle with them? What words describe the men who felt differently than David?

Look closely at David's response to these men who desired to withhold the spoils of battle in 30:23. Why was David able to view this situation in a gracious way?

How might this same attitude make it easier for us to be generous to others?

11. Read 1 Samuel 30:26-30. What nation is most on David's heart?

12. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

OUR GOD REIGNS

1 Samuel 29-30

Have you not seen, how your desires all have been, granted in what He ordaineth?

GOD PROTECTED DAVID FROM BATTLING AGAINST ISRAEL

29:1-11

David's eyes were on the little picture instead of the big picture when he fled to live with the Philistines.

David's success in duping Achish placed David in the precarious situation of battling Israel.

God sovereignly used the Philistine's fears of David's past victories to prevent a future disaster in his life.

Each step David took as he returned to Ziklag were steps lovingly ordained by his gracious God.

David did not have to battle Israel, would not be connected to Saul's death, and returned in time to rescue Ziklag.

WHEN FACING LIFE'S BATTLES

*TO AVOID DWELLING IN DANGEROUS TERRITORY, SEEK GOD INSTEAD OF _____.
_____ ON THE PATH GOD HAS MAPPED OUT FOR YOU.
_____ YOURSELF WITH GOD'S PEOPLE TO AVOID SPIRITUAL COMPROMISE.*

GOD DIRECTED DAVID TO RESCUE THEIR CAPTURED FAMILIES

30:1-20

David's unwise flight to Philistine territory to find safety for him and his followers proved unsuccessful.

David and his men witnessed the devastation in Ziklag, and deeply grieved over the loss of their families.

David had faced threats from enemies inside and outside Israel, but never from his own men.

Alone and greatly distressed, David proved he was a man after God's own heart by seeking God for strength.

God providentially placed a needy Egyptian servant on David's path to guide him to their enemy.

WHEN FACING LIFE'S BATTLES

*GOD IS FAITHFUL TO TURN OUR FAILURES INTO VICTORIES WHEN WE _____ HIM.
SHARING OUR HURTS WITH A GOD WHO CARES BRINGS US STRENGTH AND _____.*

GOD USED DAVID TO BLESS HIS MEN, THE ELDERS, AND CITIES OF ISRAEL

30:21-31

David credited the victory against the Amalekites and the spoils as gifts from God to be shared with everyone.

David generously shared the spoils with the elders of Judah as an expression of his gratitude for past support.

WHEN A BATTLE ENDS

*GIVE GOD THE GLORY AND SEARCH FOR THE GIFTS GOD HAS GIVEN YOU.
_____ SHARE GOD'S GOODNESS WITH ALL WHO ENCOURAGED YOU.*

KEY: security, stay, align, seek, direction, generously

David – The Early Years – 1 Samuel 29-30

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2 TIMOTHY 2:13 [I]f we are faithless, he remains faithful – for he cannot deny himself.

JOB 42:2 “I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.”

PROVERBS 19:21 Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.

EPHESIANS 5:6-10 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.

DEUTERONOMY 25:17-19 “Remember what Amalek did to you on the way as you came out of Egypt, how he attacked you on the way when you were faint and weary, and cut off your tail, those who were lagging behind you, and he did not fear God. Therefore when the LORD your God has given you rest from all your enemies around you, in the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance to possess, you shall blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven; you shall not forget.”

2 THESSALONIANS 3:3 But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

JAMES 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

MATTHEW 11:28-29 “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”

PSALM 13:5-6 But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.