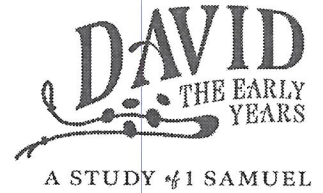


# 1 SAMUEL 21-22

March 9-10, 2022



1. Think back on a challenging time in your life. What lessons did you learn during this time?
2. Reread 1 Samuel 19:11,15 and 1 Samuel 20:41-42 and summarize David's circumstances.
3. Read 1 Samuel 21:1-9. Where does David first seek refuge from Saul?

As David seeks sanctuary, what untrue story does David tell Ahimelech, the priest?

What evidence do you see that David's escape was in haste?

How does Ahimelech show mercy to David?

What irony do you see as Ahimelech fulfills David's request for a weapon? Look back at 1 Samuel 17:51.

Who else observes David's words and actions while he is at Nob according to 1 Samuel 21:7?

4. Read 1 Samuel 21:10-15. After being recognized by Saul's spy, David flees in haste to Gath, the hometown of the dead Philistine, Goliath. What makes David realize that he has been recognized by people of Gath?

How does David escape being captured by Achish, the king of Gath?

5. During David's time on the run in Nob and Gath, he writes Psalm 56 and Psalm 34. Read Psalm 56. Describe the emotions David is feeling as a refugee on the run.

What words and phrases reveal his faith in God?

6. Now read Psalm 34. What does this psalm reveal about David?

Record the faith building truths David clings to as he runs from Saul.

Reflect on David's words and share how you can strengthen your faith and courage in difficult times.

7. Read 1 Samuel 22:1-5. After leaving Gath, where does David take refuge next?

8. Describe the men who look for David and place themselves willingly under his authority.

How do the people who seek out David and follow him remind you of those who seek out Jesus today? Read Matthew 11:28.

Look back to the time you came to faith in Jesus. How would you describe yourself at that time?

What words describe the changes in your life after becoming a follower of Jesus?

9. Read 1 Samuel 22:6-10. Write down Saul's complaints and laments to his servants after he learns David has returned to Judah.

What does Saul insinuate about David in verse 8?

How does Doeg the Edomite incriminate Ahimelech and the priests at Nob?

10. Read 1 Samuel 22:11-19. Describe the accusation Saul levels at Ahimelech.

What is Ahimelech's defense of David? Of himself?

What do the soldiers' refusal to strike down the priests of Nob reveal about them?

11. Read 1 Samuel 22:20-23. What does David confess to Abiathar?

How does David step up and take responsibility for his lie to Ahimelech?

12. Share some lessons you can apply to your life as you look back on David's mistakes and responses during his flight from Saul.

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

## **Be Teachable!**

### **Lessons for Hard Times**

#### **1 Samuel 21-22**

#### **Seeking Refuge**

21:1-9

- After leaving Jonathan, David seeks refuge at the priestly compound at Nob.
- David deceives Ahimelech by telling him the king has sent him.
- Since he has escaped Saul with no provisions, he asks Ahimelech for bread.
- Saul's servant and spy, Doeg, witnesses David's interaction with Ahimelech.
- David leaves with Goliath's sword which had been kept by the priests after his victory.

**When life gets hard, take \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord first and always.  
He provides His best for all our needs.**

#### **Battling Fear**

21:10-15

- In fear, David flees to Goliath's hometown hoping to find safety from Saul.
- After being recognized, David resorts to pretending insanity to avoid capture by Achish.
- Despite his fear, David's faith and trust in the Lord is evident in his psalms.

**During hard times, battle your fears with faith and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord.  
Fear the Lord, not the world!**

#### **Caring for Others**

22:1-5

- After David escapes Gath, he hides from Saul in the cave of Adullam.
- His family, fearing reprisals from Saul, leave their home in Bethlehem and join him for protection.
- Many men with adverse circumstances in their lives seek David's leadership and become his army.
- David seeks safety for his parents with the king of Moab who is a mutual enemy of Saul.
- David is advised by the prophet Gad to leave Moab and return to Judah.

**Show \_\_\_\_\_ to others even during your hard times.  
It is not always about you.**

#### **Taking Responsibility**

22:6-23

- Saul becomes increasingly paranoid and accuses Jonathan of encouraging David to ambush him.
- Saul interrogates Ahimelech when he learns of David's visit to Nob.
- Just as Saul's men refused to execute Jonathan, now they refuse his order to execute the priests.
- Doeg the Edomite executes God's priests and destroys the priestly city of Nob.
- David recognizes the role his actions in Nob played in the slaughter.
- He assumes responsibility for the remaining priest and becomes the protector of the priesthood.

**Step up and take \_\_\_\_\_ for the repercussions of your sin.  
God can use even our mistakes to bless others and accomplish His will.**

**David – The Early Years – 1 Samuel 21-22**

**March 9-10, 2022**

**MARK 2:25-27** And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: how he entered the house of God, in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?” And he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.”

**1 PETER 5:8** Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

**PSALM 57:1** Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge; in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by.

**PSALM 46:1-3** God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

**PSALM 56:1-4** Be gracious to me, O God, for man tramples on me; all day long an attacker oppresses me; my enemies trample on me all day long, for many attack me proudly. When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?

**PSALM 34:7** The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

**GALATIANS 6:2** Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

**PHILIPPIANS 2:4** Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

**1 SAMUEL 2:31** “Behold, the days are coming when I will cut off your strength and the strength of your father's house, so that there will not be an old man in your house.”

**PROVERBS 28:13** Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.