

The New beginnings Birmingham
Summer Revival
Series

Dr. Angulus Wilson, PhD

When God Encouraged His Heart

1 Sam. 22: 1-5

22 David therefore departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. So when his brothers and all his father's house heard it, they went down there to him.

2 And everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him. So he became captain over them. And there were about four hundred men with him.

3 Then David went from there to Mizpah of Moab; and he said to the king of Moab, "Please let my father and mother come here with you, till I know what God will do for me."

4 So he brought them before the king of Moab, and they dwelt with him all the time that David was in the stronghold.

5 Now the prophet Gad said to David, “Do not stay in the stronghold; depart, and go to the land of Judah.” So David departed and went into the forest of Hereth.

Introduction

When we come to today’s text we get to see David the man on the move. He is still running for his life and seeking to find a place where he could be free from Saul.

Today we get another glimpse of what God could do with the life of one who is under attack, mistreated, abused, disrespected, fearful and rejected. God can promote them and call others to rally around them, so that God may use them for his Honor and glory.

[What a mighty God we serve!]

Let’s look at this text and examine the life of David.

I. David’s Place of Isolation

Note:

David therefore departed from there and es-caped to the cave of Adullam. So when his brothers and all his father's house heard it, they went down there to him.

When we see David in this verse we see him and a few of his men, from the last chapter escaping from Achish by the grace of God.

Because of fear he departs from the city but escapes with his life! The word Escapes puts the emphasis on Achish being a place of Danger for David.

Not only does he escape but in his efforts to flee from the King of Achish he flees into a cave, "The Cave of Adullam."

This cave was no ordinary cave; it was a place of hiding for the soon to be King of Israel.

- Adullam was a place of retreat. It was a place of re-prieve.
- It was a place where the enemy couldn't find him.

It was a place of security from the outside world. David was still afraid! He was still fearful of what his enemies could do.

Adullam was also the name of an old Canaanite City (enemies lived there too)

It was situated between Lachish and Hebron!

David had enemies on both sides of him, the cave was an obvious location for him to retreat too until he could find out what his next move would be.

Observation

I've learned in life that sometimes you too need an Adullam!

Sometimes you need that place to go to when your life is in the balance!

Sometime you need an Adullam, that secret place, that's in-between the enemies' headquarters!

Sometimes you need an Adullam, to pause and gather your thoughts, lick your wounds, cry for a minute,

gather your thoughts and think about what's just happened to you!

- Adullam is a dark place, but it can also comfort you in the midst of the storm.
- In Adullam he has his life, but he lost every-thing else!
- In Adullam he has his health but he lost his material things.
- In Adullam he has his mind, but he lost his dreams.

In Adullam he has a few friends, but his spouse is gone!

Secondly we discover in this text that “ when his brothers and all his father’s house heard it, they went down there to him.”

Notice:

This is interesting because this reveals that perhaps all of Israel now knows that Saul is out to kill David. [his family got the news from some-where]

When those who love him hear of his misfortune, they come to console him, comfort him, and connect with him.

They know he is a fugitive.

- They know he's on Israel's most wanted list.
- They know Saul has tried several times to kill him.
- However, they don't care, because they know the character of David.
- They are willing to risk their lives to care for their brother who is alone in the cave.
- Even though David has enemies, his family is not willing to separate from him.
- They embrace his trouble, and come to see about him.

Observation:

I believe that God stirred up the family's heart to come see about the baby-boy.

He was last born of eight sons, and they were all watching his rise to fame and favor, and now evil has fallen to him.

Application:

- Everybody needs somebody sometime.
- Family needs family every now and then.
- David's family teaches us that when those we love have been falsely accused, mistreat-ed, persecuted and pursued by death, we should be ready and willing to come see about them.
- Even if they are in places that they have no business "dwelling in." The Adullam's of life...
- This text teaches me that you don't throw away your own family!

This text teaches me that one day you are gonna need your family.

This verse teaches me that family ought to be there for you when no one else is!

This text teaches me that no matter what king Saul thought about David, he had somebody that cared about him.

Observation

God stirred them up to come down to adullam and to see about him.

2 And everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him.

So he became captain over them. And there were about four hundred men with him.

Notice:

Here we see that not only did his immediate family get the word that he was in Adullam, but the community as a whole heard about it.

When they heard about what' had happened to David, something happened to their hearts.

Certain people were moved to come down to where he was, even though he was dwelling in a cave.

These people all had something in common. They could all relate to David.

- They were people who were in distress!
- They were people who were in debt!
- They were people who were discontented!

Life had bothered them, living had got hard, society had mistreated them.

- They knew David, and believed in him, trusted him, looked up to him. When these things happened to him, they felt connected to his story and moved by God to come and commune with him.

Notice:

- This is a God story we are looking at today.
- God calls David to be King.
- Then God calls David to suffer.
- Then God calls people who are suffering to come down and encourage David in Adullam, so that he might be reminded that God has not forgotten him!

Observation:

These people were sent to David by God! Perhaps in the cave he thought he was the only one going through something hard to deal with in life!

Perhaps in the cave he thought nobody could relate to his story!

Perhaps in the cave he felt the ugly sting of in-justice, but God would not leave him alone in the place of isolation.

God had a plan, and it involved people minister-ing to David in a time when he least expected it. In a place

that he least expected it. In a way that he least expected it.

Notice:

The text says that there were about four hundred men with him.

In other words, God added men to David, because nothing can encourage a man like another brother who believes in him! God wanted to solidify in the heart of David, that he was a leader of men.

- God wanted him to know that he was ordained to lead men. God wanted David to know that he was protected, covered, in community and he had nothing to fear with the Lord on his side!

Notice:

It's important that men have brothers!

It's important that brotherhood be for real!

It's important that men have men to fight along-side of them.

Sisters are wonderful to have in battle, but real men want to stand alongside real men when the enemy is closing in!

God is encouraging David in the heart with the additional men who have been sent by the Lord.

II. David's Place on Intercession

3 Then David went from there to Mizpah of Moab; and he said to the king of Moab, "Please let my father and mother come here with you, till I know what God will do for me."

4 So he brought them before the king of Mo-ab, and they dwelt with him all the time that David was in the stronghold.

Notice:

When we come here we find that after all of the people came down to David, that the cave of Adullam got to little!

- He had to relocate because the ministry had grown immensely!
- David needed a new location, for those who came to follow him.
- The text says that David came up with a plan. He left Adullam and came to Mizpah of Moab.
- This is significant, because Adullam was the place that God met him though community
- Adullam was a place of solitude but a place that had grew too small for him.

This new place called Mizpah of Moab is important because “Mizpah, literally means “watchtower!”

It was apparently the fortified city of residence at the time for “the king of Moab.” Mizpah must have been

a place where David could rest from his enemies. It was a place of intercession.

It must have been a place where he could trust safely that those who were now under his covering could live without fear. So he went and interceded with the King of Moab!

Observation

In a personal audience with the Moabite king, David requested that his father and mother be granted sanctuary in Moab until David learned “what God will do” for him.

This is important to pay attention to in this text. The King of Moab is the ruler of Mizpah. He is not a Hebrew. He is not in the graces of Saul.

He is however a picture of one who is ready and willing to help those who are seeking asylum from the enemies of their souls!

The king granted David's request, perhaps because he was honoring the ancient practice of providing sanctuary for people running from their enemies.

The King of Moab is a picture of one who takes in those who are distressed, in debt, and discontented with the current affairs of life.

The King of Moab is a picture of one who is open to intercession, and who listens to the cry of "Cave dwellers."

Secondly, there is another historical note that we must address. Because the king was a Moabite, David had an inside track to speak with the King.

Notice:

- His great Grandmother "Ruth" was a Moab-ites!

She was in his family line as a gentile, and could possibly be related to the king.

This is why David uses the language he does in his appeal...Can my father and mother [who have Moabite

blood] dwell with you in Mizpah...Until I will know what the Lord will do for me.

Here we discover that David has made a shift in his theology!

- He now understands that God is at work in his life.

He says “Until I will know what the Lord will do for me.”

God was calling him from the place of isolation to the place of a strong tower! And Now he was positioning himself to hear from the Lord, on what he should do next!

- David was no longer afraid!

- He was no-longer lonely!
- He was no longer in doubt about what God could do in his life
- He was in a different mindset now, and God was going to something great for him...

Application

We can learn from this text that when God takes you from the place of isolation he always does it through the encouragement of others.

God is the one who brings people into your life to encourage you!

When he is ready to encourage your heart, he will move you from the place of isolation to the place of the strong tower!

Where he connects you intimately unto him-self, so that you may feel fortified! God will be your strong tower!

Notice:

4 So he brought them before the king of Mo-ab, and they dwelt with him all the time that David was in the stronghold.

When I see this I get encouraged! David's parents dwelled in the strong tower, but David stayed in the strong hold!

In the strong tower they were under the protection of the King.

In the strong hold, he was on the front line for the king.

In the strong tower they were ministered too by the king.

In the strong hold he was a minister of the king.

They were in Two different places with two different functions.

David is serving the king of Moab and being served by the king of Moab.

Application:

We too ought to take our cues from this text. While the King of the strong tower serves us, we ought to serve him from the strong hold. The strong hold is...

- The place of security
- The place of safety
- The place of attack
- The place of assurance
- The place of awareness

The strong hold is the place of intercession where you're laboring and listening to king!

It's a place of reward for the believer.

David went from a place of isolation to a place of intercession!

III. David's Place of Importance

Notice:

5 Now the prophet Gad said to David, "Do not stay in the stronghold; depart, and go to the land of Judah." So David departed and went into the forest of Hereth.

When we come here to this passage we get to see a shift in position of our brother David. He has found a place of refuge and a place of safe-ty. [Moab]

Yet God disrupts his position to send him into the forest [a place of importance] to prepare him for the rest of his journey.

- This text suggest that it was only for a sea-son that he was to rest in Moab!

Moab was not the final destination! God had more for him to do!

Observation

The first thing we see is that when God got ready to move him, he sent him a preacher, one who was also discontented, in debt, and in distress!

He too had been sent by God to go and join himself to David!

The preacher was a prophet and when the time was right the Lord sent “Gad” a word to give to David!

One of the scholars in my library said the comment by Gad in v. 5 suggests that David and his men resided in a Moabite fortress.

However, their stay was only temporary because the prophet Gad admonished David to depart for Judah.”

The scholar suggested that the reason for the departure was that the Torah prohibited the establishment of friendly treaties with Moabites ([Deut 23:2–6](#)).

The Hebrews could not enter into relationships with Gentiles.

The man Gad As a true prophet of the Lord, had a duty to help others understand and heed the Torah!

If David established a treaty with the king of Moab, he would violate the Torah and bring judgment on himself and all who were with him!

Because David wanted the blessing of the Lord, he obeyed the prophet and went into the land of Judah!
[He and all of his followers]

Secondly, I believe God was doing something new in David's heart!" I believe that God was preparing him for warfare!

HE had been encouraged, refreshed, renewed, restored and now it was time to engage with what God was calling him to do!

The forest location would have provided excellent protection against large, organized forces that Saul might bring against them.

David did three things in leaving the strong hold;

1. He displayed his trust in the word because the Torah told him what to do.

2. He displayed his trust in the provision of the Lord because Yahweh would now become his strong hold, not a building made by man.

3. David was walking by faith and not by sight. David's ministry kept him on the move, and God kept revealing himself to David.

God knew just how to encourage the heart!

1. God used people sent by him when David was in isolation to encourage the heart!

2. God used his divine appointments to encourage him in his strong-tower!

3. David trusted safely in the word to obey God in every area of his life!

Even though it meant going out into the forest he could trust in God to provide for him in-spite of it all.

Application

- Somebody here today God is trying to test you to bless you.
- Somebody here today God is bringing you out of the place of isolation into the place of the strong tower.
- Somebody here today God has the next assignment for you.

- You have been strengthened and now it's time to get back in the forest so he can use you for his honor and glory!

Observation

I believe that this is where David was!

After God blessed him in Adullam, and then opened a door for Him in Mizpah, he heard the call to go to Judah.

He trusted the word of the Lord, and believed in the one who was more than enough.

Jesus had this same testimony!

It was tough to go through the wilderness and be tempted by Satan...But God sent the Angels to strengthen him!

It was good to do ministry for three years with the disciples, they operated under the Strong tower of the Lord, and ministry in northern Palestine from the strong hold of God.

When it came time to go to Calvary to finish the work the Lord had called him to do, he was ready and eager to obey the word of the Lord!

- Because of Obedience to his father he willing went to the Cross.
- Because of obedience to his father he died in our place for our sins.
- Because of obedience to his father he was placed in a borrowed tomb.
- Because of obedience to his father he was raised back to life by the father.

There is a hymn that encourages the heart. It's been singing by generations of Christians...

When we walk with the Lord

In the light of His Word, What a glory He sheds on our way;

While we do His good will,

He abides with us still, And with all who will trust
and obey.

Trust and obey, For there's no other way

To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey.

Not a shadow can rise, Not a cloud in the skies,
But His smile quickly drives it away;

Not a doubt or a fear, Not a sigh or a tear,
Can abide while we trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear, Not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay;

Not a grief or a loss, Not a frown or a cross,
But is blest if we trust and obey.

But we never can prove The delights of His love,

Until all on the altar we lay; For the favor He shows,

And the joy He bestows, Are for them who will trust
and obey.

Then in fellowship sweet We will sit at His feet,

Or we'll walk by His side in the way;

What He says we will do; Where He sends, we will
go, Never fear, only trust and obey.

Trust and obey, For there's no other way To be happy
in Jesus,

A Savior for the City

1 Sam. 23:1-5

23 Then they told David, saying, “Look, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah, and they are robbing the threshing floors.”

² Therefore David inquired of the Lord, saying, “Shall I go and attack these Philistines?”

And the Lord said to David, “Go and attack the Philistines, and save Keilah.”

³ But David’s men said to him, “Look, we are afraid here in Judah. How much more than if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?”

⁴ Then David inquired of the Lord once again.

And the Lord answered him and said, “Arise, go down to Keilah. For I will deliver the Philistines into your hand.”

⁵ And David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines, struck them with a

mighty blow, and took away their livestock. So, David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.¹

Introduction:

Every now and then we run across one of those passages where it is obvious that God is at work. In these types of passages there seems to always be a theme of salvation and obedience for the one who seeks to do Gods will.

Today we get to see a City that was over taken by a hostile enemy who was wreaking havoc and causing major problems in the lives of God's people.

However, God uses his new king [David] to come in and rescue them, without them for a Savior, looking for a savior, or expecting a savior.

¹ *The New King James Version*. (1982). (1 Sa 23:1–5). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

- He becomes a king who is in the saving business.
- He fights for them, watches out for them, and who ministers to them through intercession and warfare.
- David becomes a picture of Jesus in the New Testament.
- We can learn today what it means to have a savior for the City.

I. Information about the enemy

Then they told David, saying, “Look, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah, and *they* are robbing the threshing floors.”

Note:

When we come to this passage we see the men who are following David bring him some important news.

It's news concerning their enemies nearby activity and their diabolical behavior against their neighbors.

This news is very bad news, because the Philistines are a ruthless people!

David's people say that they are fighting...the residents of Keilah....

Observation:

1. David when he was with King Saul, he would have been the one to go and stop the Philistines from their attack.

But now that Saul has turned his attention to Killing David there is no one in Israel with the tenacity and commitment of David to war against Israel's enemies.

2. According to the report this enemy was so ruthless, not only were they fighting, but they were robbing their threshing floors! This was a hostel take over, a vicious act of warfare on the part of the philistines!

3. The threshing floors were the place where their fields were harvested, the place of resources, the place where they made their living. The enemy took it from them by force!

The people who lived in Keilah, were residents of Judah, and were also small in number, they would have been country people or farmers who could not protect themselves!

When David hears this news, it would have been vital information and a call to do something on behalf of those who are in need of help.

1. This was a great injustice happening in the same location that David was in, and David knew it!
2. This was warfare against people who couldn't fight back, and David knew it!
3. This was warfare by an enemy that David was experienced in defeating, and David knew it!
4. Those that knew David was victorious were also quick to tell him of the enemy's activity.

They told him because they knew he would know what to do!

5. This was a ruthless enemy that David despised, and he knew he had to do something to help Gods people!

Application:

Sometimes in life we too are made aware of the enemy's activity in the lives of those that we love.

Sometimes God brings a crisis to you to see what you will do, and to see how you will engage on his behalf.

Sometimes believers are needed to help rescue people who are under the attack of the enemy.

This text is a great picture of the world ...just like the citizens of Keliiah ...Satan is at war with them and is doing his best to destroy them, their families, their resources and their lives.

The child of God who has been successful in warfare has an obligation to help those who are under attack from the wicked one!

II. Inquiry about the enemy

² Therefore David inquired of the Lord, saying, “Shall I go and attack these Philistines?” And the Lord said to David, “Go and attack the Philistines, and save Keilah.”

Note:

David in this verse displays a heart for Justice. When he hears of the People of Judah’s struggle, loss of property, warfare with the Philistines, He inquires of the Lord when it is not even his own personal fight!

- He sees the Philistines as all of Israel’s enemies.
- He sees them as the enemies of God.
- Even when Judah and Israel were at odds, they were a divided nation, David felt obligated to do something about their calamity!

- David is a protector of the innocent and the weak.

So, before he asks the people of Keilah do they want any help, David goes to the Lord to ask if he should go fight on behalf of the innocent.

Observation:

I learned something right here in this text...

1. David inquires of the Lord if he should do it!
2. He's a man of prayer!
3. He's a warrior but he doesn't fight every battle?
4. He consults God first to discern if the Lord is with him and if what he is about to do is in the Lords will!

In other words, he is not fighting everything that comes his way! He's not fighting every enemy because they are an enemy! He's not fighting

what he's not led to fight or where he's not led to fight!

He's not fighting for Judah, he's not fighting for Israel, he's fighting because the Lord has given him permission to defeat the Philistines. He's fighting for the name of the Lord! He's fighting that Yahweh may be glorified.

Observation:

This is important for the child of God. We must learn how to fight at the right times. How to fight for a spirit led righteous call! How to fight when the Lord says to fight! How to fight because the lord has called us to fight!

The bible says that the Lord said...

“Go and attack the Philistines, and save Keilah.”

Note:

God heard his prayer request and gave him instruction!

He told him to go and to attack the enemy! Go and Save Keilah.

Here we get to see the Lord working on behalf of people who don't even know that he is working!

The Lord has a weapon he's about to unleash on the enemy, and his name is David!

This battle was the Lords and the Lord had a man who could wield the sword on the battle field.

Because he prayed he got direction, instruction, guidance, permission and a divine assignment to save a City!

Note:

Here I discover that God gives David a mandate to save a City from the enemy!

It reveals to me that God has a love for Cities! People live in Cities...people make up families, families make up neighborhoods, neighborhoods make up communities and communities make up Cities.

God in this text wants to stop an enemy from devastating a City!

God has a man who cares and a man who asks if he can and if he should go against the enemy that Hates humanity and that has come to steal, Kill and to destroy in the City!

Comparison:

When I look at this text I can't help but be prompted to tell you that this is another picture of Satan!

I believe that the Devil Hates Cities...

I believe that in certain Cities he has deceived them and branded them with wickedness.

The Devil Hates Cities....in the Cities of America, there is gang violence, drugs, murder, brokenness, heartache, pain, bitterness, loneliness, poverty and great depression....

All of it caused by Sin and Satan. The devil hates the City and does great evil across this country in our Cities.

You can watch the Six-O'clock news and tell that Satan hates Cities...his deceptive work is seen everywhere.

When I look at this text, I get some hope! I get hope because God had a man, who had a heart for the City!

In David's intercession with God;

- God gave David the green Light, because David has Gods heart for the City!
- God gave David the green light because David wants what God wants for the City.
- God gave David the green light because David could be trusted with the Mission of God for the City!

Question:

- Can God trust you with the souls of men?
- Can God trust you with an assignment to save this City?
- Can God trust you with a ministry request?
- Can God trust you with his divine authority to engage a wicked enemy, who has come to steal, kill and destroy in the City?

Observation:

We need a David in this Town! We need a man who could ask God for permission to wipe out the enemy of drug abuse!

We need a David in this Town! We need a person who could ask God for permission to stamp out human trafficking!

We need a David in this Town! We need a man who could petition God for permission to destroy gang activity, prostitution, corporate greed, poverty, racism, illiteracy, hatred, greed and satanic assaults on the innocent!

We need a David in our City! Who is willing to go to war against Sin, and lead Gods people into victory, over the flesh, the world and the devil! [Can I get a witness?]

III. Insecurity about the enemy

³ But David's men said to him, "Look, we are afraid here in Judah. How much more than if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?"

⁴ Then David inquired of the Lord *once again*.

And the Lord answered him and said, “Arise, go down to Keilah. For I will deliver the Philistines into your hand.”

Note:

When we come to this portion of the text, we see what David didn't see. We see fear creep into the ranks of his men!

David in verse two gets the O.K. from Yahweh to go to battle, but the men have not heard from God concerning the divine instructions.

1. All they knew was that the Philistines were marching in Keilah, and that they were devastating Gods people.
2. They were not privy to hear Gods word of a promised victory to David.
3. Because of History they were fearful of this enemy, even though David had a good record of wins against their army.

4. Situations and circumstances made them afraid of this “right now situation”!

Notice what they said; “Look, we are afraid here in Judah. How much more than if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?”

Observation:

Because they were from Israel and Judah and Israel were not on speaking terms, they were afraid of just being in Judah. They were not comfortable being in a place that they were not wanted!

While they were in Judah, they had to watch their back, but now David was ready to go fight for Judah in Keilah against an invading army of Philistines. They would be fighting the enemy on a different enemy’s turf!

These men were afraid! They were fearful! They were uncertain about this battle!

Question:

- Have you ever been in a fight that you were unsure you could win?
- Have you ever questioned your ability to be successful in a difficult situation?
- Have you ever wondered if this fight was the right fight?

Fear made these men unsure, unstable, unsteady, unreliable, and unreasonable.

According to the text this is the first time that this army that God has assembled will fight under David's command!

- They haven't had any victories yet!
- They haven't had any battle-scars yet!
- They have never fought as one unit yet, and because they haven't they don't know what they can do, because it's never been done before!

- They are afraid, and so they tell their leader and their captain, we are afraid and we don't think that this is a good idea.

Observation:

The text says that when David heard this he went back into prayer!

⁴ Then David inquired of the Lord *once again*.

And the Lord answered him and said, “Arise, go down to Keilah. For I will deliver the Philistines into your hand.”

Note:

This portion of the narrative is interesting because we see David, going back into prayer about this battle, when he has already heard the Lord tell him to go ahead and fight the philistines.

This is interesting because it is almost as if the men who came to follow David, nearly convinced him that he should be afraid too!

I believe that the fear of the army almost makes David not believe in what he heard the Lord tell him to do.

- Because fear is contagious it has a way of killing dreams!
- Because fear is contagious, it has a way of paralyzing hopes!
- Because fear is contagious, it can turn dreams into nightmares!
- Because fears are contagious, it can take your eyes off what the Lord showed you and put it on the “the what if’s” ...

You will start to hear things like....

- What if this happens, and what if that happens?
- Because fear is contagious many a Christian has stayed in the pews in the safety of the sanctuary instead of doing something great for God!

- Because of fear, many a Christian have stayed home from the mission field instead of trusting God!
- Because of fear, many a Christian has let go of their burning desire to run for God, and settled for something unfulfilling
- Because of fear, many Churches have settled for subpar ministries instead of doing something big in the name of the Lord!

Fear almost grips David, until he runs back into the presence of the Lord!

Note:

- It's in the presence of the Lord where his vision for a victory gets renewed!
- It's back in the presence of the Lord where he gets reminded of what he has been called to do!
- It's in the presence of the Lord where he gets revived to believe that he can conquer what the enemy is trying to do in the City.

It's in the presence of the Lord where he is reminded that life has meaning, and his purpose is to lead Gods people into victory!

It's in the presence of the Lord where David hears the word of the Lord and can escape the fears of men!

- Can I tell you, if you want to escape the doubts of men, go into prayer and listen for Gods voice?
- If you want to escape the fears of people live in the lord's presence in prayer
- If you want deliverance from the doubters lay out before the Lord in prayer
- If you want to be sure you have heard him speak, go back again and talk with the Lord

- If you need confirmation regarding what the Lord is called you to do, you don't have to get it from man, go back into prayer!
- If he told you once he can tell you again!
[Can I get a witness?]

Story:

Every since we planted the new beginnings California church, we have had to be sure that every move was the voice of the Lord! I had to learn how to leave behind the voices of those who were fearful, go back before the Lord and do what I heard him tell me to do.

Since we've been together over these 10 years, I have had to consult the lord over many things...

All the different moves, ministry decisions, appointments, consultations, but I have learned one thing.

I am never to decide based on fear!

I have learned family.... You can't be afraid of working for the Lord! You can't be afraid and be victorious! You can't be afraid and successful too!

I've learned in ministry that Fear immobilizes the Christian leader!

Fear causes you to do nothing, when you should move at Gods command!

Fear causes you to not believe that the Lord has you in the center of His will!

Fear causes you to believe that you can't trust in the word of the Lord!

Fear causes you to second-guess what God has already said!

Fear causes you to go with the crowd instead going against the crowd.

Fear almost got David UNTIL he went back into the house of the Lord.

And the Lord answered him...I will deliver the Philistines into your hand.”

- What a promise from the Lord, coming from the conference of fear with men!
- The Lord spoke to David because the Lord had a mission for him to complete!
- When the Lord spoke this time, David was confident in what he heard, and he moved out in obedience to the Lords command!

⁵ And David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines, struck them with a mighty blow, and took away their livestock. So, David saved the *inhabitants of Keilah*.²

Note:

As we close this passage we see David leading men who were fearful into the lord's battle!

² *The New King James Version*. (1982). (1 Sa 23:1–5). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

The believer should pay attention to this passage. If you were ever unsure how to lead in fearful crowds, here is what it looks like!

- You do it by example! You do it because of obedience!
- You do it because the Lord has told you what to do!
- You do it because you have a guaranteed victory and the Lord is on your side, but you still must fight to get the victory!
- You still must engage to get the victory!
- You still must step out in faith to get what the Lord has promised you.

Textual Observation:

When David leads, the men follow!

They may be afraid but they follow the leader!

Why? Because he has given them confidence!

I've learned from this passage that the man that gives another man confidence is the man that gets to lead men!

- David led by confidence in the Lord!
- David led by faith!
- David led by assurance that God was in control!
- David led by the word of the Lord!
- David led by example, and everybody wants a King who leads by example!

Because of Faith he concurred the enemy, took back what he stole from in the inhabitants of Keilah!

Note:

This brings another picture to mind! Because Jesus is a better King than David, I got to make the comparison here!

As the King of Salvation Jesus defeated our enemy Satan!

- Out on the cross he made us victorious!
- Out on the cross, he defeated sins grip over humanity!
- Out on the cross, he took back what the enemy stole from us!
- Out on the cross he took back man's right to the tree of life!
- Out on the cross he restored our relationship with a Holy God!
- Out on the cross he took our sins upon himself!
- Out on the cross he took Satan's power over humanity!
- Out on the cross he made a way for us to be reconciled back to God.
- He died, was buried and was raised back to life by the father!

Everything the enemy stole from me, God has given right back!

My joy, my hope, my trust, my assurance, my confidence, my future, my eternal destination, my home in glory, my name in the book of life, my dreams, my goals, my security, my laugh, my smile, my voice, my position in God...

Jesus took it all back for me ... HE took back what the devil stole! [can I get a witness?]

"How to Encourage Yourself in the Lord"

1 Sam. 30: 1-24

Now it happened, when David and his men came to Ziklag, on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the South and Ziklag, attacked Ziklag and burned it with fire,

² and had taken captive the women and those who *were* there, from small to great; they did not kill anyone, but carried *them* away and went their way.

³ So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with fire; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive.

⁴ Then David and the people who *were* with him lifted up their voices and wept, until they had no more power to weep.

⁵ And David's two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite, had been taken captive.

⁶ Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God.

⁷ Then David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, "Please bring the ephod here to me." And Abiathar brought the ephod to David.

⁸ So David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?"

And He answered him, "Pursue, for you shall surely overtake *them* and without fail recover *all*."

⁹ So David went, he and the six hundred men who *were* with him, and came to the Brook Besor, where those stayed who were left behind.

¹⁰ But David pursued, he and four hundred men; for two hundred stayed *behind*, who were so weary that they could not cross the Brook Besor.

¹¹ Then they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David; and they gave him bread and he ate, and they let him drink water.

¹² And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs and two clusters of raisins. So when he had eaten, his strength came back to him; for he had eaten no bread nor drunk water for three days and three nights. ¹³ Then David said to him, “To whom do you *belong*, and where *are* you from?”

And he said, “I *am* a young man from Egypt, servant of an Amalekite; and my master left me behind, because three days ago I fell sick.

¹⁴ We made an invasion of the southern *area* of the Cherethites, in the *territory* which *belongs* to Judah, and of the southern *area* of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.”

¹⁵ And David said to him, “Can you take me down to this troop?” So he said, “Swear to me by God that you will neither kill me nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will take you down to this troop.”

¹⁶ And when he had brought him down, there they were, spread out over all the land, eating and drinking and dancing, because of all the great spoil which they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from the land of Judah.

¹⁷ Then David attacked them from twilight until the evening of the next day. Not a man of

them escaped, except four hundred young men who rode on camels and fled.

¹⁸ So David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away, and David rescued his two wives.

¹⁹ And nothing of theirs was lacking, either small or great, sons or daughters, spoil or anything which they had taken from them; David recovered all.

²⁰ Then David took all the flocks and herds they had driven before those *other* livestock, and said, “This *is* David’s spoil.”

²¹ Now David came to the two hundred men who had been so weary that they could not follow David, whom they also had made to stay at the Brook Besor. So they went out to meet David and to meet the people who *were* with him. And when David came near the people, he greeted them.

22 Then all the wicked and worthless men^[a] of those who went with David answered and said, “Because they did not go with us, we will not give them *any* of the spoil that we have recovered, except for every man’s wife and children, that they may lead *them* away and depart.”

23 But David said, “My brethren, you shall not do so with what the LORD has given us, who has preserved us and delivered into our hand the troop that came against us.

Introduction:

There are some troubles in life that will come to break the child of God. When these type of dangers attack us, the believer needs to know what to do and how to do it.

It’s evident in this text today that David had been caught in one of life’s most trying situations, and he didn't have anyone on his side to encourage him in the Lord.

David in-spite of being alone in one of his darkest times in life, has to learn how to encourage himself, so that he may endure the trial of his life.

The song writer Donald Lawrence wrote the song “speak over yourself” ...

Sometimes you have to encourage yourself.
Sometimes you have to speak victory during the test.

And no matter how you feel,

Speak the word and you will be healed; speak over yourself, encourage yourself in the Lord.

I have come to discover, that Donald Lawrence is right...Sometimes there is nobody around to encourage me in my daily battle with the enemies of my soul...

Sometimes I have to be my best cheer leader, and the main encourager of my own soul...

I think you will understand if I told you that Many a Christian has heard this song, and many a Christian has had to encourage themselves in the midst of the storm.

This text today will help us to know what to do when life is not fair, and life is not fun and devastation's come into your family!

David becomes the poster child of hope and faith in God, in the midst of it all, because he learned to encourage himself in the Lord.

Background:

In chapter 29, David has been summoned by King Achish to come to war with Him against Israel. Because he lives in the Philistine country, he has to have a loyalty to the king of the Philistines.

When he gets to the battle with his 600 men, the Lords of the Philistines spot David and his men in the battle formation, and they go to the King and complain about him being present.

They say to the King that they don't trust David, and that they think he may turn on them in the battle.

They urge the king, to release David from their formation, and send him back to where he is from.

David and his men after being dismissed from the formation, head back home to Ziklag!

When they arrive back home they discover that every-last one of their wives, children, and family members have been taken captive by an invading enemy, and all of their resources have been stolen, and their homes and their City has been burned to the ground!

David and his men are in a crisis! Their livelihood has been threatened, their egos have been stepped on, their families disrespected and mistreated and they believe that it is all David's fault.

If they had not gone to help the philistines...

This would have never happened...

Their wives and children would be home...

Their businesses would be in tact...

Their property would still be here...

Their community would not be devastated...

Their inheritance would not be lost...

Their reason for living would still be around...

- I believe that they blamed David, and David blamed himself!

- In fact, they began to talk about stoning him, and taking his life for the lives that had been taken!

- The man they once loved, had now become the man they hated!

- Just that quick David their leader became the **David the despised!**

Question:

1. What do you do when life goes from good too bad in a Fresno-minute!

2. What do you do when a good thing becomes a bad thing right before your eyes?

3. What do you do when the crowd who used to love you, now wants to stone you? 4. What do you do when the ones you love become your enemies?

5. What do you do when you don't know what to do?

These are the questions that this text brings to us today! David answers the call in the crisis of a life time.

- He doesn't shrink back, he doesn't ball up and cry.
- He doesn't get high to escape the situation.
- He doesn't blame anyone else for what has happened to him.
- He doesn't try and put the situation off on someone else!

- He steps up and leads as Gods man in the midst of this Terrible situation.

He becomes for us a good picture of a servant leader in a difficult time.

If you want to know what to do, and you want to learn how to lead in the crisis take your cues from David in this passage.

David Encourages himself David Empowers himself David Employs himself

Let's learn from this passage how to encourage ourselves in the midst of the storm.

I. David Encourages Himself

6 Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters.

But David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.

7 Then David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, "Please bring the ephod here to me." And Abiathar brought the ephod to David.

Notice:

When we arrive at this passage we see something phenomenal happen in the midst of the crisis.

- When the loyal men of David, get so grieved in their spirits they turn on their leader.
- Their grief over takes them and they suddenly they turn on the one who has been leading them in every battle that they had ever fought!
- They forgot that this was David the great, Israel's most famous warrior.

- They forgot that this was David their commander the man who looked out for their families.
- They forgot that this was David, the man that they came to follow on their own free will.
- This was David who gave them families, homes, security, position, a place to run to when Saul was trying to kill them.
- They forgot that David's family was taken too! He had been violated just like them!
- They forgot that just because he was the leader did not mean that he was exempt from the trials and tribulations of life!

Application:

I've learned from this passage that leadership is a hard-thing to do when you are leading Gods people.

Sometimes they love you and sometimes they want you dead.

Sometimes they will turn on you when grief has them arrested, and they know not what they shall do!

I've learned that a leader has to stay focused with precision like determination, and never take it personal when the troops start to misbehave!

A leader has to step up and lead in the worst of situations.

A leader has to know where to go when nobody else knows where to go.

David goes to the priest! He asks the priest to bring him the Ephod.

What is the ephod?

The Ephod was a significant piece of clothing ascribed to the high priest to be worn with his uniform. The high priest was

to wear this when going on behalf of the people to God.

When he would pray for them, offer sacrifice for them, bless them and handle priestly duties in the temple.

He was required of the Lord to wear the Ephod.

When there was trouble in the camp, he was to wear the ephod so that he could seek God and get instruction on behalf of Gods children.

1. David knows where to Go to encourage himself! He goes to the priest.
2. David recognizes that this battle is supernatural, its gonna need supernatural attention if he is going to be victorious.
3. David recognizes that his men can't help him in this leadership moment!

4. They don't believe in him right now, so he has to do all the believing in himself.

What he does next in this text is the answer to what somebody here today must do. You must get yourself in position to hear from the Lord.

Observation:

When you find yourself in the fight of your life, take your cues from David, get to the high priest of your soul and do what you know how to do, and that is position yourself for instruction.

The high priest of your soul is Jesus. Get to the place where you know how to hear from him, and then be prepared to listen for what comes next!

- Position yourself to be taught by the Lord.
- Position yourself to be instructed in supernatural matters.
- Position yourself to be fed and led by the only one who can help you through your difficulty.

- Jesus is the high priest of your souls, he has just what you need for the crisis that you are in.

Always remember sometimes you have to encourage yourself!

Story:

There is a story told about a braggadocious- dog that boasted of his ability as a runner.

One day he chased a rabbit and failed to catch it. The other dogs who had watched him take the chase, ridiculed him on account of his previous boasting.

His reply was, “You must remember that the rabbit was running for his life, while I was only running for my dinner.”

[Did you get it]

You see the dog had learned to encourage himself in the face of ridicule...

Every believer needs to have the attitude of this dog and be able to encourage themselves in the

face of ridicule and adversity.... No matter what the situation looks like or feels like!

Don't ever forget to be willing to encourage yourself....

II. David Empowers Himself

8 So David inquired of the Lord, saying, “Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?”

And He answered him, “Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all.”

Notice:

When we arrive at this portion of the text we see David Empower himself in the midst of the crisis. Normally, the priest would pray for the one seeking prayer, but in this case, **David's crisis is personal, pivotal, and preeminent! He can't wait on second hand information.**

David wants to know right now, what he needs to do...His family has been taken captive...his men are in distress...his community has been threatened ...he needs a word from the Lord and he needs it now.

Everyone wants him dead...all of the men are discouraged...he has to lead this prayer for himself. He has to go deep with God, and he has to do it now!

Notice:

The text says that he asked God two questions...

“Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?”

He wants to know am I too late to save my family? He wants to know can I catch up to the one who has done this-evil to me?

For David it's not a matter of if I should do something, it's a matter of am I too late to do something!

- David is a warrior, fighting is in his blood! •

David is a shepherd, taking care of the sheep is what he is wired to do!

He needs to know if there are any sheep left?

- He needs to know if anyone has survived! •

He is going to do something, but he needs to know what that something is...

Observation:

- David is teaching me how to pray in the crisis.... He is teaching me that doing nothing in the crisis is a sign of giving up when there are lives to be saved!

- David is teaching me that you don't ever give up!

- He is teaching me that fighting to the end is what a warrior must do!

- David is teaching me that my family is worth fighting for, even if the enemy has them captive!

- David is teaching me that if I don't fight for them, no man will!
- David is teaching me that I am responsible for pursuing my families wellbeing...
- David is teaching me that the Lord wants to use me to pursue them...

I learn in this passage, that the Lord saw what happened, and he could've stopped it, but he would rather use men to fight this battle and use men to pursue and save men!

- David empowers himself to seek the Lord...David empowered himself to get Gods permission.
- David empowered Himself to talk to the Lord about his troubles ...
- David empowered himself to hear the word of instruction for his families wellbeing...

I noticed in this narrative that David didn't do the following things as a leader!

Notice:

- David didn't roll over and die because of his grief!
- David didn't just let the enemy have his family, because of his grief!
- David didn't become a permanent-victim, because of his grief!
- David didn't make excuses about his trouble, because of his grief!
- David took advantage of his-position in God, his training in war, his mantle of leadership and his life-experiences and he became something that his enemy would come to fear!
- He became a king in the making with a love for his people, and the fear God on his side!

Textual Observation:

When the Lord saw David ask for the Ephod...God was pleased at what he saw....

After David prayed, the Lord said... “Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all.”

Because he pursued the Lord, David got his answer from the lord, in the midst of his battle.

Because he pursued the Lord, he got a word from God, to show him what to do.

Because he pursued the lord, he got instruction for his troubles, and he got an answer on how to save his family....

Application:

When you get serious about the crisis of your home, and you pursue the Lord in prayer....and follow David's steps of intercession, you too will get an answer for what you are supposed to do!

When you get serious, about your life threatening situation, you too will hear God tell you what you need to do to save your love ones...

When you learn to empower yourself to seek the lord for yourself, nobody will have to tell you what the lord has said, because you would have heard him for yourself!

HERE IT IS...

- If I were you I would learn how to talk with God for myself!
- If I were you, I would learn how to find him in the midst of the storm!
- If I were you, I would learn how to tell the Lord what I need him to do for me!
- If I were you, I would learn how to ask him to show me how to save my family, my husband, my wife, my kids, my neighbor, my mom, my cousins, my best friends, my co-worker, anybody and anything that I am involved with...
- If I were you, I would become empowered to pray for myself!

The truth is every believer needs to do this even when you can't see where the help is going to come from....

If you do try this you will find that the Spirit of God will show up in ways that you never imagined....

Story

The story is told about a little boy who was flying a kite. It was a windy day, and the kite kept going higher and higher. Finally, it got so high that it was out of sight.

A man passed by and saw the little boy holding onto the string.

The man could not see the kite, and he asked the boy, “How do you even know you have a kite up there?”

The boy replied, “Because I can feel it...”

[Did you get it?]

Although we cannot see the Holy Spirit, we should be able to sense His work in our lives changing us into the image of Christ.

When you learn to empower your self to pray, you might not see God working, but you can sure feel Him in your body as he tugs on your hearts strings...

III. David Employed Himself

9 So David went, he and the six hundred men who were with him, and came to the Brook Besor, where those stayed who were left behind.

But David pursued, he and four hundred men; for two hundred stayed behind, who were so weary that they could not cross the Brook Besor.

Notice:

When we arrive at this portion of the text we see something that I had never noticed before. David never asked for his men to come along with him.

The text says that David went...I know that the other men had family to be taken also, and I know that they wanted to stone David.

I know that they were disgruntled soldiers, but I can't help but notice that when the leader leads, the men will follow!

David employs himself...because he has gotten a word from the Lord.

The word is that he will pursue and he will overtake them!

It is with this **encouragement and empowerment**, that David and God are a one-man army!

David employs himself, he believes in himself, he has recovered himself, he has revived himself and so he leads himself.

Notice:

As a commander he doesn't tell others to do it, but he leads himself!

The bible says that 600 brothers came along also....

However, as they ride out as a band of soldiers on a mission to pursue the enemy, 200 men got weak, and couldn't make it to fight for their families...

- 200 men got weak, and left their children in the hands of the enemy...
- 200 men got weak and gave up on the salvation of their homes!
- 200 men got weak, and refused to travel any further to fight for themselves, their communities, their families, their names and their brothers!
- 200 men got weak and deserted the army!

Notice:

But the bible says that David kept going! He left the weak men behind!

“But David pursued, he and four hundred men; for two hundred stayed behind, who were so weary that they could not cross the Brook Besor.”

Application:

I learn from this passage that everybody who says they are down with you can't make it with you to the end!

I learn from this passage that everybody who claims that they will fight for their community don't always keep their words.

I learned that some people don't have the stamina in warfare that other people have.

I learn that when you have people like this in the ranks, sometimes you have to leave them behind, because they will slow you down, when you are trying to save your family!

These kind of soldiers, require attention, and their need for ministry will take you off of the

pursuit of those held captive by the underworld!

HERE IT IS...

If they are too needy, they will demand all of your attention...

If they are too needy, they will make you slow down...

If they are too needy you can't get nothing done, because their psychology demands your physical and mental attention, pulling you off the field from pursuing the one that has your family held captive...

I learned in this text you can't fight the enemy and baby sit the troops too!

You can't fight the enemy, and nurse the wounded at the same time...

I learned in this text that Nurses and warriors are two different people....

Nurses are for the wounded, but warriors are for the battle...

David is teaching me in this text;

1. Take only the men that hate the enemy, and that have the stamina to fight! [don't take weak men into the battle]
2. He is teaching me that in every battle you need to have a secret-ally, who can expose the enemies' strategies, and whereabouts!

He is teaching me that when you find this ally, befriend him, because he will be the resource that leads you in the salvation of your family!

The text Says...

11 Then they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David; and they gave him bread and he ate, and they let him drink water.

12 And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs and two clusters of raisins. So when he had

eaten, his strength came back to him; for he had eaten no bread nor drunk water for three days and three nights.

13 Then David said to him, “To whom do you belong, and where are you from? “And he said, “I am a young man from Egypt, servant of an Amalekite; and my master left me behind, because three days ago I felt sick.

14 We made an invasion of the southern area of the Cherethites, in the territory which belongs to Judah, and of the southern area of Caleb; and we burned Ziklag with fire.”

15 And David said to him, “Can you take me down to this troop?”

So he said, “Swear to me by God that you will neither kill me nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will take you down to this troop.”

Notice:

As we come to the close of this narrative, David is smart enough to take care of somebody who has been mistreated by the same enemy!

- He has found himself and ally!
- He has made a new brother in the fight against his enemy!

Because the Egyptian knows the Amelikite whereabouts, traditions, strategies and warfare techniques, David can use his military intelligence for the salvation of his family!

Observation:

Here we discover that God sends David an informer, who no longer wants to work for the enemy!

He has been betrayed by an evil master and left for dead while working in his service.

When David finds him near dead, he ministers to him, and gives him another chance at life!

What he now gains is a brother! A brother who has the same convictions about the same enemy!

They've got a common goal now, and together they can pursue the one who has done evil to so many people!

Application:

Every now and then on this journey God will send you an ally that knows more about your enemy than you do!

That ally is sent to you to aide you in the deliverance of your loved ones from captivity ...

- Don't despise the ally!
- Don't kill the ally!
- Don't misuse the ally!
- Don't mistreat the ally, let them help you to reach your loved ones...

Story:

Several years ago, in Long Beach, California, a fellow went into a fried chicken place and bought a couple of chicken dinners for himself and his date late one afternoon.

The young woman at the counter inadvertently gave him the proceeds from the day—a whole bag of money (much of it cash) instead of fried chicken.

After driving to their picnic site, the two of them sat down to open the meal and enjoy some chicken together.

They discovered a whole lot more than chicken—over \$800! But he was unusual. He quickly put the money back in the bag. They got back into the car and drove all the way back to the restaurant.

The man got out, walked in, and became an instant hero. By then the manager was frantic.

The guy with the bag of money looked the manager in the eye and said, "I want you to know I came by to get a couple of chicken dinners and wound up with all this money. Here you go...."

" Well, the manager was thrilled to death. He said,

"Oh, great, let me call the newspaper. I'm gonna have your picture put in the local newspaper. **You're the most honest man I've heard of.**"

To which they guy quickly responded, "Oh no, no, don't do that!" Then he leaned closer and whispered, "**You see, the woman**

I'm with is not my wife...she's uh, somebody else's wife."

[Did you get it?]

Don't despise or judge your Ally, even if they are living a life and doing wrong...

David's Ally was on the way to rob his village, but in the end he was a help to David...to do what was right by God!

So don't despise the help, that the lord sends your way!

Conclusion:

16 And when he had brought him down, there they were, spread out over all the land, eating and drinking and dancing, because of all the great spoil which they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from the land of Judah.

17 Then David attacked them from twilight until the evening of the next day. Not a man of them escaped, except four hundred young men who rode on camels and fled.

18 So David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away, and David rescued his two wives.

19 And nothing of theirs was lacking, either small or great, sons or daughters, spoil or anything which they had taken from them; David recovered all.

20 Then David took all the flocks and herds they had driven before those other livestock, and said, “This is David’s spoil.”

21 Now David came to the two hundred men who had been so weary that they could not follow David, whom they also had made to stay at the Brook Besor. So they went out to meet David and to meet the people who were with him. And when David came near the people, he greeted them.

22 Then all the wicked and worthless men of those who went with David answered and said, “Because they did not go with us, we will not give them any of the spoil that we have recovered, except for every man’s wife and children, that they may lead them away and depart.”

23 But David said, “My brethren, you shall not do so with what the Lord has given us, who has preserved us and delivered into our hand the troop that came against us.

Notice:

As we close this text...there are two types of men we see in this text...they are wicked men and there are weak men.

David has to stop them from judging each other, and abusing each other!

He reminds them of who it was that gave them the victory!

He says that if it wasn't for the Lord on our side, we would not have any of our families or our stuff back in our possession!

The lesson from this story is ...

1. Don't forget who delivers your loved ones
2. Don't forget those who didn't go to the battle

with you!

3. Don't forget to save their families too while you are saving yours!

Observation:

Sometimes as a church we too can get like this... Just because somebody doesn't serve like we serve, we can get an attitude about what we do and what they don't do!

We can't lead in this way, we have to be like David, and serve everybody that needs serving.

We have to bless everybody, that needs blessing!

David is the picture of a good King in the making! And they were blessed to have him on the throne!

Oh, but a better king than David was coming, he was going to rule like no man has ever ruled before.

The new king, would concur all enemies, both foreign and domestic, both human and supernatural!

- This King would serve weak men and strong men!
- He would save poor men and rich men!
- He would fight for our salvation and save us all from Sin.
- King Jesus would die on the cross for our sins, and save us from entering into hell for all of our eternity!
- King Jesus would die, be buried in a borrowed tomb, take the sting out of death, and

rise again early Sunday morning from the dead!

- As the sovereign King of the Universe with all power of heaven and earth in his hand!

Story:

I got to leave you now...

But I read a story the other day, that made me remember that I can never quit as a pastor....

There was A man stopped who stop to watch a Little League baseball game. He asked one of the youngsters what the score was. The youngster replied “We’re losing 18-0,” was the answer.

“Well,” said the man. ” I must say you don’t look discouraged.”

“Discouraged?” the boy said puzzled. ”Why should we be discouraged?

We haven’t come to bat yet.” [Did you get it?]

Don’t be discouraged Christian! Your time to bat is coming soon!

Don’t throw in the towel...You will get a chance score after while....

Don’t give up...Jesus is on your team, and we win in the end....