

Wednesday June 25th
A Good Life - 2 Samuel 22-24

Opening

What is the strangest gift you have ever given or received?

Digging Deeper

Message Review: In these chapters David's long life and reign as king are remembered, not by what he did for the Lord, but by what the Lord did for him. David knew God was the one who called him, protected him and strengthened him every step of the way. In the final chapter we read of David and the nation falling into sin and being corrected by the Lord. When judgment comes, the prophet Gad tells David to erect an altar and offer a sacrifice. Our focus for discussion will be on David's act of worship. **READ** 2 Samuel 24:18-25

1. The plague of judgment was approaching Jerusalem when the prophet came to David. Who called for a sacrifice? (Verse 18) What's the difference between punishment and sacrifice? Why was a sacrifice needed?
2. Araunah had a generous heart to give the king what was needed, but David did not accept it. Why could he not simply accept the gift on behalf of the nation?
3. David offered two types of sacrifices (verse 25). Both provide atonement for sin, but in the burnt offering the whole animal is consumed and in the peace offering part of the animal is given to the worshiper to eat "before the Lord." What is significant about this?

Application

1. Some people feel they need to suffer and/or perform good deeds to clear their guilty conscience? Does this work? What's God's cure for a guilty conscience?
2. How long should a person wait between confessing sin and worshiping? How long does it take to be (or feel) "close to the Lord"?

Prayer

1. What is something from this passage that we can pray for?
2. Pray for personal needs.