

DISCUSSION NOTES

APRIL 19, 2020

Start by praying and asking for God's help as you seek to grow as authentic followers of Jesus.

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

1. Read 1 Samuel 24. Make 5-7 observations. What is the story about? Who are the main characters? What crucial things take place? What is funny about this scene?
2. Evaluate the discussion that takes place in verses 1-7. What arguments do David's men make? What internal argument does David have with himself? What argument does David make to his men?
3. In verses 4-6, what is the symbolism evident in David's cutting off a corner of Saul's robe? Why do you think David responds so strongly after doing so?
4. In verse 7, David "persuaded his men" and did not allow them to attack Saul. Do you think this was easy for David? Why do you think he had the confidence to it?
5. Briefly discuss the conversation that takes place between David and Saul in verses 8-22. How does David's response show both strength and humility? Do you find Saul's response surprising? Why or why not?

LIVING IT OUT

6. How do you handle things when they don't go your way? What stressors generate impatience in you?
7. J. D. Greear says that there are two different types of waiting: simple inaction and attentive readiness. How would you describe the difference? What would it look like for you to remain *spiritually attentive* in this season of waiting?
8. David could have killed Saul in the cave and his life would seemingly have become much easier very quickly, but consider all that David would have lost if he had taken Saul's life. Create a list of things David would have lost (in his spiritual life, leadership, relationships, emotional life, etc). Why is it helpful to consider the potential consequences of our sin?
9. Waiting builds trust, and trust builds character. Can you describe a specific time when you learned to wait on God and how that has played a role in your own growth process?
10. When you feel the internal push to circumvent God's timing or God's ways, it usually means that there is a doubt you are feeling or a lie you are believing about God. In your personal experience, which of the following exposes your most common frustrations (pick one or two):
 - God's plan is not good enough for me
 - God's care is not satisfying enough for me
 - God's timing is too slow for me
 - God's honor is not successful enough for me
 - God's way is not secure enough for me
11. In our current season, everyone all over the world is waiting more than usual. How does being a Christian give us hope in the waiting that non-believers do not have?