

DISCUSSION NOTES

MAY 10, 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 26:1-12. Make several observations. What is the setup of this encounter? Who is present? What happens?
2. Compare and contrast this encounter between David and Saul with their encounter in 1 Samuel 24. What is similar? What is different?
3. When David replies to Abishai in verses 9-11, he speculates about what will happen to Saul. What scenarios does he imagine as possible endings for Saul? What does he seem to be certain about?
4. In this section, David seems to have a newfound confidence about God's ability to resolve this conflict. In fact, there seems to be some growth or maturity in David's life as we progress from Chapter 24 to 25 to 26. How might you explain his greater restraint and deeper patience?
5. Read 1 Samuel 26:13-25. Make several observations. Who initiates the action? What is the result? What is the main idea?
6. What are the primary frustrations that David communicates when he speaks to Saul (vs. 18-20)? Consider his statement: "they have driven me out this day that I should have no share in the heritage of the Lord, saying, 'Go, serve other gods.'" What do you think he means? Why would driving him out of Israel in a sense be pushing him to serve other gods? Read Psalm 137:4-6 for a clue.
7. Read Psalm 20:6-8. What is the message taught by these verses? How does this relate to what happens in this passage between David and Saul?

LIVING IT OUT

8. How would you explain what it means to "trust the Lord" to a teenager who is stressed and feeling unsure about his or her circumstances?
9. We may not understand everything there is to know about everything that is happening in our lives, but we should obey what we know as soon as we know it. Do you agree? Why or why not?
10. How great is your appetite for the worship of God amongst the people of God? How has this season of Covid-19 isolation affected your view of the worship gathering of the church?
11. David says, "may my life be precious in the sight of the Lord, and may he deliver me out of all distress." As Christians living after Jesus' death and resurrection, we live with greater privilege and more revelation than even David had. How can we be even more certain that we are precious in the sight of the Lord?
12. David's request can be turned into a wonderful prayer: "Lord, deliver me from every distress." What is one personal distress (or area of stress) you are currently experiencing that we could pray for this week?