

## STUDY NOTES

**OCT 11, 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 2 Samuel 6. Make 5-7 observations. What surprises you? What seems important? What do you learn about God? What questions do you have?
2. Read Exodus 25:1-22 to learn more about the ark of the covenant. What was the most significant thing about the ark? In 2 Samuel 6, where was the ark located before David went to retrieve it? Why was it at that location?
3. What were David's motives for bringing the ark home? What did he do right and what did he do wrong?
4. Verses 8-9 say, "David was angry because the Lord had broken out against Uzzah...And David was afraid of the Lord that day, and he said, 'How can the ark of the Lord come to me?'" Can you relate to David's feelings here? Why or why not?
5. How was David's second journey with the ark different from the first? Who accompanied him and what did they do? What did David do? How would you describe the atmosphere of this entourage?
6. What was the conflict between David and Michal upon his return home? What is her specific complaint?

### LIVING IT OUT

7. In what ways do we act carelessly in our approach to the presence of God? Are you ever casual and pragmatic in your worship, taking the easy way rather than the holy way? Are you ever more concerned with your appearance before other people than you are with your appearance to God?
8. In what ways does this passage make you uncomfortable? Does God's punishment of sin cause you to pause and wonder who can approach a holy God? How should seeing God's holiness on display in this text impact your thoughts or feelings about sin?
9. What does it do to your heart to know that Jesus bore your sin on the cross to stay the punishment of the holy God through his own sacrificial death? When is the last time you were moved emotionally by this fact?
10. In response to Michal's criticism, David said, "I will celebrate before the Lord. I will make myself even more undignified than this." About this incident, Chuck Swindoll wrote, "The better you know where you stand with God, the freer you can be. There is no freedom like the kind He provides. In a word, it's *grace*." Does the grace of God free you to celebrate before the Lord as the audience of your worship? Why or why not?
11. What is one thing you want to apply to your own life this week in response to what you've learned?