

Home Group Questions

the week of 03/17/2019

1 Samuel 17:21-52

DAVID – FROM BAD TO WORSE

GETTING STARTED...

This past Sunday, Pastor Mel continued his series on the “Ordinary Superheroes of the O.T.”. This week focused on David and the jealousy and hatred that Saul had for David. This caused David to flee for his life, leaving his wife, his best friend, and his spiritual mentor. He began to live in caves to escape Saul’s deadly plans. During his time in the caves, David writes an amazing Psalm, Psalm 57, which highlights his heart attitude even when things went from bad to worse.

LOOKING IN THE WORD...

1. Read 1 Samuel 18:6-30; 19:10-12; 22:1-2. David is clearly on the run for his life. He ends up in a cave a few times in order to escape Saul’s efforts to kill him. In one of those moments in the cave, he writes Psalm 57....

- Read Psalm 57. This Psalm is truly amazing when you read it and know the circumstances that David finds himself in...even while being the anointed one that was supposedly the next king of Israel. Pastor Mel shared the following principles that we can learn from David when we face “storms” and trials in our lives:

- 1. Remember the storms of life in no way negate the awesome promises of God. Psalm 57:1**
- 2. Seek to find and fulfill God’s purposes when the storms of life come. Psalm 57:2**
- 3. Trust God’s eternal plan when faced with short term pain. Psalm 57:3-4; Philippians 1:6**
- 4. Cultivate uplifting praise rather than paralyzing self-pity. Psalm 57:5-11**

Discuss these principles and ways in which you’ve been able to apply them in your own life...or times in Scripture where you have seen examples of godly people struggle and do the right thing...or do the wrong thing.

2. Read Psalm 73:1-15. Asaph is a psalmist that struggles more with her perception of the world and the “unfairness” of it. Sometimes we feel like we may be alone in our spiritual struggles when they occur.

- What are some of the things Asaph struggles with specifically? Have you ever had these same struggles and if so, how do you resolve them in your life?
- Without necessarily turning to the passages, ask people to share what they remember about how the struggle was resolved in the lives of these individuals in God’s Word.

The Psalmist struggles with God not being fair and seems critical of life and even of the Lord. Discuss this quote and the implications of it:

“If you’re struggling with God not being “fair”, it may be because He is not your chief treasure above earthly prosperity. Asaph wants us to know that the prosperity of the wicked is short-lived and their doom is eternal. But the blessings of the godly are eternal, whereas our trials are short-lived. The main blessing is to know God Himself as the strength of your heart and your portion forever!”

-Asaph becomes a hero for us in that he goes to the temple and worships. What lessons can we learn about how to keep a biblical perspective and not allow the circumstances of this world to defeat us? Share other lessons you can learn from Psalm 73.

Moving Forward...

Pray that you will have the strength to draw near to God in praise when you face storms in your life. Pray that your heart would be steadfast with God’s, like he expresses in Psalm 57.