

David- Study Notes

1 “Chosen” 1 Sam 16

Samuel was God’s Prophet; born in 1105 BC he was brought up to serve God and willingly accepted the task of being God’s messenger to His people the Israelites. Now at the age of about 80 he has seen Israel’s first King, Saul, fall from the Lord’s favour because Saul was more interested in what other people thought about him than in his relationship with God.

Called to anoint a new King on the quiet, he feels lead to Jesse’s family and all of his impressive sons. Each time he thinks he has found the right person God tells him to look again until he is left with the youngest son. The son of so low a rank that he has been left out of the meeting altogether so he can tend to the Sheep.

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you ever felt left out of things, look down on or ignored? What was that like?
2. How do you choose between people to be friends?
3. How important is our image?
4. What is most important to God when he chooses people?
5. What do you think God sees when he looks at you?

2 “Giant Killer 1 Sam 17

The Philistines were the Israelites enemy and would have liked nothing more than wipe them off the face of the earth. Many times in their history they had clashed and this was the season for war. When the Israelites first entered the Promised Land they were afraid of the giants living there, so it’s no surprise that their Champion was a giant warrior called Goliath.

He made the Israelites forget that they had an all powerful God and stopped an army in its tracks. It took a young shepherd boy David to remind them that God was in charge and could defeat any obstacle in the way. David’s trust in God was stronger than any armour he could put on and Goliath’s is the perfect example of pride coming before a fall.

Discussion Questions:

1. What issues in life can we face that seem impossible to beat?
2. How much does peer pressure affect us when responding to issues?
3. Who do we trust to help in times of trouble?
4. How could a faith in God help us face our issues?
5. Is God worth trusting?

3 “Who’s The Man?” 1 Sam 18

Saul was a very proud man which is one of the reasons why God had turned against him. Here comes David a young likeable chap who seems unstoppable and blessed in all he does. Jonathan must have known how his father felt about David but still he liked him, the People liked him and the reputation David builds is impressive while staying humble in attitude.

Saul’s anger is all consuming and boils up into vengeful & murderous thoughts. Release can only be achieved by David’s death. But try as he might, God is on David’s side and all obvious attempts prove useless. Pretending love, he offers his daughter’s hand in marriage for a dangerous mission, hoping David will not survive, but still David succeeds.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why can Jonathan feel no shame for siding against his Father?
2. What is most important to God in people’s choices?
3. How does pride get in the way of making the right choice?
4. Where can jealousy lead us in our own friendships?
5. How should we handle success in relation to God?

4 “Righteous Dude” 1 Sam 24

Caught with his trousers down Saul is unaware that the man he’s chasing is nearby and could easily kill him & end this cruel manhunt. David has a real test of character what should he do? See this as God putting his enemy at his mercy and take action or take the higher moral ground?

David ignores his men’s advice and treats Saul with far more respect than he seems to deserve. His choice does bring about true regret in Saul and for the moment there is peace because David has proved he is still loyal & trust worthy. Saul admits David is God’s choice & asks that he take care of his family when he becomes King.

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you ever had to face a difficult choice? What was it like?
2. How easy is it to hold back from getting revenge?
3. What do you think gave David the strength to not take revenge?
4. In what way can God help us in our daily choices?
5. Is it better to be right than righteous?

5 “Blowing It” 2 Sam 11

David has finally become King after Saul’s death in a distant battle. He has achieved so much and no one would blame him from taking a rest from it all. Looking after himself rather than the kingdom for a while. The trouble is when we start focusing on our own desires we can often gratify them in sinful ways. A good looking woman is the easiest way for a man to trip up.

On finding his sin has lead to a potential public disgrace he tries to cover it up. The trouble is he has been such a great example to his men, Uriah refuses to play ball and that leads David to commit an even worse sin, murder.

Discussion Questions:

1. What do we turn to when we need comforting?
2. When is it wrong to look after ourselves first?
3. If a woman shows off her body who’s at fault if the man slips up?
4. Why do sins start to build up in our lives?
5. What would God have wanted each of the characters in this story to do?

6 “The Lord Saves” 2 Sam22

David was the greatest worship leader of his time. Starting as a boy with a Harp playing to calm the sheep in his care and leading them to pastures green, he takes that gift and produces some of the best know lyrics in the world today.

He sings from the heart and is totally honest about how he feels in good times or bad. Here he proclaims Gods Salvation & declares for all to know that God is in charge of his life. “Trust in God,” he shouts at us He won’t let you down!

Discussion Questions:

1. What type of worship songs do you like & why?
2. What makes a good worship song?
3. If you were going to write a song about God, what would you say?
4. Is it right to be blunt with God if times are hard?
5. In what ways has God been there for you?

7 “Legacy” 1 Kings 2:1-4

David is dying and he wants to pass on some wisdom he has learnt to his son Solomon who will rule after he is gone. Keeping God’s laws works! If you follow God and put him first then you will be successful in life.

David is known as the greatest King of Israel’s history even though Solomon in some ways achieved more for the kingdom. He was always building on the foundation and legacy David had left. What was that foundation? A life lived to please God which brought about the successful Kingdom Solomon inherited.

Discussion Questions:

1. When we look back on our life what would we want people to say about us?
2. How would God being in charge of our life benefit us?
3. What do people notice about a person with a heart for God?
4. What ways can we allow God to be central to our lives?
5. How can we keep on building a Godly legacy?