

Life of David

Lesson 17

Text

1 Samuel 21 - 1 Samuel 22:23 (Psalm 34, Psalm 57, Psalm 142, 1 Chronicles 12:8-18)

Background

In chapter 20, we see David continuing to fear for his life at the hand of Saul. In meeting up with Jonathan, David wonders why Saul is so deadset on taking David's life as he hasn't sinned against Saul nor is guilty of any crime.

With all this being true, David still had his service to the jealous King Saul. He had his duties, but he wasn't sure that returning to the service of Saul was the correct move. This is where Jonathan comes in and intercedes for David. They devise a plan to gauge the temperature of the king and whether it would be safe for David to return.

The plan was simple, David would hide from Saul while Jonathan would be in the presence of his father during their customary meals. If Saul still showed murderous intentions, then Jonathan would warn David through a cleverly crafted plan involving arrows and a young boy. To nobody's surprise, Saul was still very intent on ending David's life.

It is confirmed, David would continue to be on the run. See where the story goes next as we dig into this week's chapters. **Be sure to also check out the supplementary reading listed above. These verses will enrich the story you are studying this week.**

Day 1 - Read and Listen

1. Read and/or listen to the passage twice. If possible, use different translations. I highly recommend having the passage read to you. Many apps, including the Blue Letter Bible, have a feature that will read the Bible to you. Meditate and pray on the passage.

Day 2 - Observing the Text

2. Who are the characters listed in the passage? As much as the passage tells you, write down any titles, traits, or additional information about each of the characters in the narrative.

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3. Where does the narrative take place? List out any locations mentioned. To be more specific, study a map from the timeframe of 1 Samuel (approximately 1105 - 971 BC) and see if you can find the locations on a map. Write down any observations from this exercise.

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4. Summarize the main plot points from the passage in the space below.

Day 3 - Understanding the Narrative

5. Name one or more of the conflicts from the passage and how they were resolved or left unresolved.

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6. How does the narrative fit into what you already learned about 1 Samuel? Consider, if applicable, the following: How does the narrative tie to the larger picture of a coming royal priesthood? Do you see any foreshadowing of Jesus as King?

Day 4 - Additional Study

- 7. Take note of any repeated words, thoughts, or phrases in our passage this week. Write those down below.

- 8. Did any parts of the passage you read make you think about other stories in the Bible? This includes similar narratives, but could also include similarity in lessons being learned by different people at different times. We call these links “purposeful parallels.” If so, write those down below.

- 9. **Word Studies:** Use the “Blue Letter Bible” or your favorite word study method to look up any words of your choice in the passage. Be prepared to share your findings with your group. Remember, this is the Old Testament. You will be looking up Hebrew words.

Day 5 - Life Application

Reading the Bible should change you! The purpose of reading any passage or passages is to gain life changing applications you must consider for your own life.

- 10. **Application:** Read Psalm 57. This Psalm was written in response to David’s time hiding out in the cave in chapter 22. What can you learn from David from this writing in how we respond to tough situations in your life? Write down a challenging question or a resolution that you will consider going forward.
