



TroutLakeCamps.org/dteam

NAME:



DISCIPLE SERIES

E-4 "Life of David"

Monday Overview:

David. We know more about David than almost any other person in the ancient world. We see him at his best and his worst. A complex man, he is known both for his amazing faith and closeness to God, yet he made staggering mistakes that haunted his kingdom. A worship leader, musician, warrior, father, king, prophet, and sinner—he was all of these. We have all read stories of David, but this week let's look try to look with fresh eyes at the man and his faith. We might just see ourselves along the way.

Bible Reading:

- 1 Samuel 17:1-58

Now What?

Goliath was 9 feet and 9 inches. He wore armor weighing 125 pounds and carried a shield that covered his entire body. He looked invulnerable. Goliath's offer of single combat created a huge problem for Saul, since no one, not even King Saul, was willing to fight the giant. In challenging God's armies, Goliath defied God Himself. David saw that in not taking up the challenge, God's reputation was being damaged. Let's take a look at how and why David was victorious. First, David had experienced God's delivering power in the past—so much so that he was willing to put himself before a giant (v.37). David also considered the situation from what he knew about God. David triumphed in God's Name. David chose a simple stone to bring down the giant. All of Goliath's size and armor were worthless to help him

The 4 Q's

1. What obstacles appear to us as giants?
2. How do we meet them in God's Name?
3. Do we ever think about how our reaction to a challenge reveals what we think about God?
4. What does this teach us about overcoming difficulties?

Things To Pray For:

Memory Verse:

Psalms 51:1

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions."

Tuesday Overview:

Do you have enemies in your life? Have you ever felt someone was simply out to get you? Then you can sympathize with David. David had a complicated relationship with King Saul. Saul owed David for his loyal service, but Saul was jealous of David. Saul has been rejected by God as Israel's king. He has lost the Holy Spirit's guidance and is slowly going mad. Saul sees David as his rival, so he is bent on destroying him.

David is God's chosen, yet he is forced to live on the run because Saul is out to kill him. Saul is wrong about David, but in spite of everything David still respects Saul and his claim to the throne. Few people would have blamed David if he would have killed Saul when he had the chance. But David did not. David saw Saul as God's representative (Ex. 22:28), and even though Saul misused his authority, to harm Saul would be to seriously disrespect God.

Bible Reading:

- 1 Samuel 24:1-22

Now What?

Submission. Respecting authority even when it doesn't go our way. We trust God as the ultimate authority to decide on our behalf. David's submission to Saul is a model to us—his conscience hurt after just cutting off a piece of Saul's robe. David remembered and valued who God is in the tough moments of life, and he made his decision in light of God. He demonstrated real faith in God when he presented himself to Saul in 24:8-15. Instead of taking things into his own hands, he publicly trusted God to judge him innocent, and to keep him safe. In the meantime, David would obey God even if it meant the risk of Saul chasing him again.

The 4 Q's

1. What do you think went through David's head when he realized Saul was in his cave?
2. Did David's friends help or hurt him?
3. Where is God speaking to you in this story?
4. What does submission look like in your life?

Things To Pray For:

Memory Verse:

Psalms 51:1

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions."

Wednesday Overview:

David wanted to build God a house. As you might have learned by studying 'Abraham-Jesus,' God made a covenant with Abraham that would become a blessing to all nations. When God made a covenant with David, He continued to fulfill the promises of land and blessing through it, including the promise of a house—a dynastic line of kings—a line of sons that would rule over Israel. This promise laid the groundwork for the Gospel—Jesus would be David's descendant to claim the throne of Israel. God had done so much for David, and David wanted to do something for God, but God didn't want him to—he wanted to do something for David. He wanted to give David a promise of grace that would outlast all of David's and his family's failures so that He would be glorified in keeping it, and bringing out of David's line a savior for the human race. This promise would be a gigantic work of grace.

Bible Reading:

- 2 Samuel 7:1-29

Now What?

Is the Christian life more about what God does for us in giving us His promises or what we do for God? What are promises that God has for you?

The 4 Q's

1. Read Ephesians 2:18-22. How did God fulfill 2 Samuel 7:12?
2. How is David's faith reflected in his prayer in 7:28-29?
3. What does this chapter tell us about God's plans?
4. What does this chapter tell us about God's grace?

Things To Pray For:

Memory Verse:

Psalms 51:1

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions."

Thursday Overview:

So far David has been a hero. We now see him at his worst moment, committing the sin that would burden his life and his kingdom with heavy consequences for the rest of his life. Hindsight is 20/20, and we can see various points in the story where David could have stopped. But the important part is that David's heart was all wrong. He had stopped listening to God.

Bible Reading:

- 2 Samuel 11-12

Now What?

Can you see both God's justice and God's mercy in how He responds to David? God is faithful to His promise and He does not kill David or remove him as king as He had Saul. In keeping His promise to David, God shows not only mercy to David, but to us—out of this fulfilled promise comes Jesus. God's justice is evident too. David did not escape punishment because he was a favorite. God is impartial. What David had thought to conceal from everyone, including God, would return to David in public before everyone. Eventually, Absalom, one of David's favorite sons, would try to overthrow him. At the same time, God gave to David a son by Bathsheba. Solomon would reign in his place, have the most prosperous earthly kingdom Israel enjoyed and Solomon would build the first temple.

Activity:

Think of ways that we can look out for others in temptation; make a list.

The 4 Q's

1. David got into trouble rather quickly. How could David have checked himself by listening to God?
2. How did Nathan convict David?
3. Why did David try to cover his sin?
4. How do we remind ourselves that God is watching?

Watching...

Things To Pray For:

Memory Verse:

Psalms 51:1

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions."

Friday Overview:

As children we learn how to talk, as believers we learn how to talk to God. David was a master. Now that we've seen David's multifaceted life, we can better understand the heart behind the Psalms. In Psalm 23, David describes the LORD as His shepherd. Having been a shepherd who protected sheep, David saw the LORD as His shepherd. This relationship never really left David's life. We read about David's repentance in 2 Samuel 12, but we can feel it in Psalm 51. This psalm gives us a prayer to communicate with God when we have really blown it, and God feels distant. God will use this prayer to change our heart. And Psalm 110 is an example of David writing to God as a prophet. After Jesus' resurrection, the words of David were seen to be fulfilled in two major ways: 1) Jesus sits at God's right hand with all power and authority—he is in charge of the whole world (Psalm 110:1 & Hebrews 10:12-13), 2). Jesus is the great High Priest who intercedes for us in heaven on the basis of His sacrifice (Psalm 110:4 & Hebrews 7:21).

Bible Reading:

- Psalms 23, 51, 110

Now What?

As we seek God in prayer, it is amazing to realize that God has provided us words to speak to Him—words that He will use to transform us. Sometimes it is easy to identify the connections between the Psalms and our lives as in 23 and 51. At other times, such as with 110, we simply stand back in awe at the fullness of God's plan, and the glory of His mercy in Jesus Christ. We just connect to this amazing God who has given us the right to be called His children (John 1:12).

The 4 Q's

1. Read Psalm 23. Where is God speaking to you here?
2. Read Psalm 51. Where is God speaking to you here?
3. Read Psalm 110. Where is God speaking to you here?
4. How does the fact that David wrote Scripture (especially Psalm 51) show God's grace?

Things To Pray For:

Memory Verse:

Psalm 51:1

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions."

Journal:

The Final Q's

1. Which story from David's life sticks out most to you? What do you learn from it?
2. What does David's life teach us about what faith in God's grace looks like?
3. What quality of David's do you want in your life?

Memory Verse:

Psalm 51:1