

Let's Talk: Day 134-One Story

Doeg Kills Priests – David Flees to Wilderness, Doeg Kills Priests & David Writes Psalms

Today's Reading: 1Samuel 22; Psalms 63; Psalms 52

Everyone draw an emoticon (a picture that shows your mood) for how they are feeling right now. Mix it up and try to guess which emoticon belongs to which family member. Now draw an emoticon of the attitude you are going to choose for the next 24 hours no matter the circumstance.

Questions:

1. Do you think Saul was trying to please God or listen to God? How can you tell?
2. What did Saul command the people to do to the priests? Why were they slow to obey? Who eventually carried out Saul's command?
3. Why do you think God allows bad things to happen to good people?
4. David is still in the cave. How would you describe David's emotional and spiritual state in the two Psalms we read today? How can David's different "moods" encourage you in your spiritual walk?

Let's Talk: Day 135

David Hides & Spares Saul – The Ziphites Tell Saul Where David Is & David Writes a Psalm

Today's Reading: 1Samuel 23 & 24; Psalms 54

Play "Tag." "It" is King Saul. Or play "Hide and Seek."

Questions:

1. Before David acts, what does he do? How can you apply this to your life?
2. What do you think were some of the daily difficulties David and his men had to overcome as they lived in caves in the desert and were

being hunted? What do you think would be the hardest thing to deal with?

3. Who encouraged David during this time? What do you imagine that meeting was like?
4. Why did David feel bad after he cut off a corner of Saul's robe? What do we learn about David's character in this chapter? What can you learn about giving mercy and forgiveness but not trust in the way David acted toward Saul? What does it take to earn back trust?

Let's Talk: Day 136

Abigail & Nabal – Nabal (Whose Name Means “Fool”) & Foolishness
Today's Reading: 1Samuel 25; Psalms 14:1-3; Proverbs 10:6-25

On small slips of paper have everyone write down something that would be foolish to do. Put the papers in a bowl. Let each person draw one slip and act it out. Don't guess your own idea!

Questions:

1. What did David's men ask of Nabal's workers? What had David's men provided for Nabal's men?
2. How did Nabal respond to the request? How did Abigail respond? How did Abigail still respect her husband? How can you respect someone with whom you disagree?
3. How did Abigail approach David? Did David have a right attitude? How did she help change it? What can you learn from Abigail about how to defuse tense situations?
4. The word Nabal means fool. What are some of the characteristics of fools according to Psalm 14 and Proverbs 10?

Let's Talk: Day 137

David Spares Saul Again – David Sneaks into Saul's Camp but Does Not Take Revenge

Today's Reading: 1Samuel 26; Matthew 5:38-48; Romans 12:14-21

Gather 10-15 objects and put them on a table. Let the family look at them and then look away. Have one person take away one item. Can the other family members guess which item is missing?

Questions:

1. What did Abishai want to do? What was David's response?
2. How did David talk to Saul? If someone had been trying to kill you and making your life miserable, how would you have responded?
3. God could have killed Saul right away and established David as king. Why do you think God had David go through the years of trials before becoming king? How can your present difficult circumstances be good for your character or for God's future plans for you?
4. How can you love your enemies this week? How does loving them actually benefit you?

Let's Talk: Day 138

Saul Consults a Medium – God Is Silent to Saul & Saul Tries to Consult the Dead

Today's Reading: 1Samuel 28; 1Chronicles 10:13-14; Proverbs 1:22-33

Have each person take a turn pretending to be someone from history who is no longer alive. Everyone else can ask them yes or no questions to determine who they are.

Questions:

1. What mistake did Saul make? Do you think it was really Samuel? Why or why not?
2. Why was the kingdom taken away from Saul? How does our current obedience to God affect our future? How would you evaluate your obedience to God?
3. Although God is rich in mercy and forgiveness, what are the reasons Proverbs tell us for God's silence?
4. What have you learned about God's character in today's reading?

Let's Talk: Day 139

David Chases the Amalekites – Finding Strength in God During Hard Times

Today's Reading: 1Samuel 29 & 30; Habakkuk 3:17-19

Check out 10 manly feats of strength at <http://www.artofmanliness.com/2008/08/21/manly-feats-of-strength/> and try a few. Talk about how trusting in God's strength is a better option!

Questions:

1. What problem did the Philistine princes have with David and his men?
2. How did God manipulate the circumstances so that David and his men did not have to fight their own countrymen?
3. Although God delivered David from fighting, what trial awaited him in Ziklag? Why do you think God allowed this trial?
4. How did David's men respond to the trial? What was David's response? What good leadership character traits did David display in this chapter? Where do you get your strength?

Let's Talk: Day 140

Today's Reading: Weekly day OFF

Weekly Review: Think back on this week's reading. What story stands out to you and why? Who demonstrated great character? Who had some major character flaws? As a family, pick a verse from the week to meditate on or memorize.

A great character builder is going through a stressful circumstance beyond your control. David certainly did. Can you think of any circumstances in your life that might be there so God can develop your character?