

## Let's Talk: Day 141-One Story

Saul & Jonathan Die – David Mourns & God Takes No Pleasure in the Death of the Wicked

Today's Reading: 1Chronicles 10; 2Samuel 1; Ezekiel 33:11

Put an object in the middle of the room. Every time you can discover something about a person's character in today's story, yell "character alert," grab the object and then share what you have learned. The first to grab the object gets a point. The person with the most points gets to choose a fun activity for the family to do.

Questions:

1. How did Saul die?
2. What did the men of Jabesh Gilead do?
3. What story did the Amalekite tell David? Was he telling the truth? How did his story backfire on him? What lesson can you learn from this?
4. How did David respond when he heard of Saul's death? Is this the expected response when you hear someone who has made your life miserable has died? What does this tell you about David's character?

## Let's Talk: Day 142

Abner & Ishbosheth Die – The Murders of General Abner & King Ishbosheth

Today's Reading: 2Samuel 2-4

Divide the family into two teams and get a bunch of crumpled paper. Have a "war" and throw papers at each other for a determined amount of time. When time is up, see who has the least amount of papers on their side. Winner!

Questions:

1. Where was David first anointed king? How many years did he reign there? How did David eventually become king over all Israel? Do you think David tried to wait on God's timing to take over the kingdom? Why or why not?
2. Why do you think Joab and Abner didn't like each other? How did Joab let his emotions rule his actions? What could he have done instead?
3. Joab worked for David. How did David show that Joab acted without David's approval? How can you humbly show that you don't always approve of your peers' actions?
4. How did David keep his promise to Jonathan by showing kindness to his family?

### **Let's Talk: Day 143**

David Defeats Jerusalem & the Philistines – David's Battles & Commitment to Pray

Today's Reading: 2Samuel 5; 1Chronicles 11:4-9; James 1:2-8

We are entering some days of battles in our reading. Although it might look a little different, we have daily battles in our lives too. Create a family battle cry and encourage each other throughout the week.

Questions:

1. What is another name for Jerusalem? Who was the person who led the charge and took the city? How is this man both a hero and a headache to David? Do you know anyone like this?
2. When the Philistines came against David, what did he do first? Did God answer the same way both times? What does that teach you about God's plans?
3. What should you do when you don't know what to do according to James? And how should you ask? What promise does God give? Apply this today!
4. What should be our attitude when we have trials or difficult circumstances? What is our more natural first response? How can we have the attitude God wants for us?

## Let's Talk: Day 144

David & the Ark – The Ark, the Death of Uzzah & David's Dance  
Today's Reading: 2Samuel 6; Numbers 4:15-20; Psalms 30

Turn on some praise music and dance for God! May everyone be willing to be undignified for God!

Questions:

1. What mistake did David make regarding the ark of God? Hint: Numbers gives the instructions.
2. What happened as a result of that mistake?
3. Describe David's attitude and the general atmosphere as David attempted to bring the ark of God to Jerusalem the second time? What was his wife's response?
4. The ark of God represented the glory of God. For us, Jesus says our bodies are His temple so we carry him wherever we go. How can we live out David's attitude rather than Michal's in our daily life? Why is this hard to do sometimes and how can you, as a family, encourage each other?

## Let's Talk: Day 145

David & the Temple – David Prepares for the Temple After God Forbids Him to Build It  
Today's Reading: 2Samuel 7; 1Chronicles 22 & 29: 1-9

Tape a note to a mirror that says, "God has plans for me." What would you guess His plans are for the rest of the year? Write a prediction and put it in an envelope. Open it on New Years Eve. Could you predict what God had in store for you?

Questions:

1. What did David want to do for God? What was God's response? What do we learn about God's answers on the good things we sometimes intend to do?
2. Summarize David's prayer of thanksgiving in 2Samuel 7. How well does David seem to know God? Have you ever prayed a prayer of thanksgiving like that? Could you?
3. How did David heartily prepare for his son's assignment?

4. What instructions did David give his son Solomon? Parents, what spiritual instructions have you given or can you give your children?

### **Let's Talk: Day 146**

David & His Wars – David, the Warrior for God

Today's Reading: 2Samuel 8; Psalms 60; Psalms 144

As a family, list out as many "battles" as you can that you have won spiritually (either as individuals in the family or as a family). What battles are you still relying on God for deliverance? Pray together for this deliverance before reading today.

Questions:

1. What are some of the battles that David won?
2. How does Psalm 60 correlate to the story of 2Samuel 8? Where does David say his victory and strength come from? How can we practically rely on God's strength rather than our own?
3. What are some of the things that David says God is to him? What is God to you or which one of David's descriptions do you identify with most?
4. David wrote many psalms yet often he says he will "sing a new song." What does that mean spiritually for us? Are you singing new songs to Jesus or the same tune over and over? How can you learn a new song?

### **Let's Talk: Day 147**

Today's Reading: Weekly day OFF

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

Having good character doesn't mean you never make bad choices. What bad choices were made this week by men of good character? Keep this in mind as you read this coming week as well. People of good character don't make excuses but simply own up to their faults. Is this an area that you need to pray together as a family for growth?