



not what i planned!!!

Fear Not!

Journey with Jesus: Luke 2:8-4:13
July 17, 2016 - Pastor Bruce French

What happens when we give in to fear?

1. Fear will lead us to disregard _____.

1 Sam. 21:2-6

a) Faith perceives that compromise has an

_____ outcome.

2. Fear will create a defensive _____.

1 Sam. 21:7-9

a) Faith understands that anxiety is

_____.

3. Fear will cause us to think _____.

1 Sam. 21:10-15

a) Faith realizes that distress invites _____.

Take Home Truth

When we give in to _____

we find ourselves _____.

Today's Core Virtue:

Faith: "Being sure of what I hope for and certain of what I do not see, I exhibit faith that pleases God. (from Hebrews 11:1, 6)

Today's Action:

When do you tend to give into fear? Confess this tendency to the Lord and ask for courage so that you do not falter.

hand in
hand
verse by
verse

Deeper Connection Study

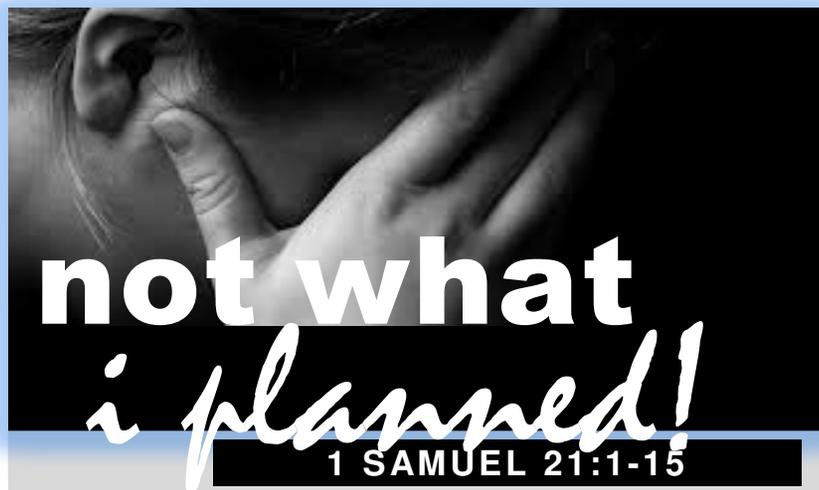
David is on the run from Saul. As he arrives at various locations, he encounters people who wonder why he is there. The two particular conversations noted in chapter 21 show a change of behavior in David that reveals the stress of his predicament.

Today's Core Virtue discussed: Faith.

Read 1 Samuel 21

1. How do David's actions show a natural self-interest (vv. 1-9)? What do you think he was trying to accomplish?
2. How do you have a tendency to act on your own strength before turning to the Lord? When does this happen to you?
3. Why does David choose to flee to Gath? What is so puzzling about this decision (vv. 8-9; cf. 17:23)? How does the phrase "the enemy of my enemy is my friend" apply here?
4. **Read Psalm 34.** What key phrases are used by David to express his thinking and emotions while in the wilderness?
5. Name some biblical characters who had experiences in the wilderness/desert. Why did God allow them to have a "wilderness" experience?
6. The school of hard knocks in biblical times was known as the wilderness school. How has God educated you through his "wilderness" school? Are you still in this kind of school? What are you learning?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God that he is our refuge and strength in time of need. Ask God to give you the courage to act in difficult times. Pray that you will be obedient to his commands and faithfully follow his leading.



Fear is something that every person experiences at one time or another, and that includes Christians. At times, some have feared that God would not provide, that the money needed to survive wouldn't be there. Others have feared that someone they cared about would not surrender to God and then end up in a bad place. In some cases they may have even feared for their life like David, causing them to wonder if God would come through and protect them. Whatever it may have been, the fact is that everyone has been afraid at some time.

The unfortunate thing is that fear causes people to react and often do things that they regret. In this passage the reader will witness David running for his life. He has a legitimate fear; King Saul is literally trying to kill him. However, decisions he will make that the next two chapters record are ones that he will regret for the rest of his life.

How about you, are you living in fear and are you making decisions from a posture of fear?