



not what i planned!!!

Life Giving!

Journey with Jesus: Luke 6:6-7:35
July 31, 2016 - Pastor Bruce French

How does God encourage us?

1. God encourages us through His _____.

1 Sam. 23:1-14

a) Make persistent _____ to discover
God's _____. 1 Sam. 23:4

2. God encourages us through His _____.

1 Sam. 23:15-18

a) Look for friends that _____ you
to _____. 1 Sam. 23:16

3. God encourages us through His _____.

1 Sam. 23:19-29

a) Trust that God's _____ will
be _____. 1 Sam. 23:26b-28

Take Home Truth

God's _____ is a
_____ encouragement.

Today's Core Belief:

Personal God: "I believe that the infinite and eternal God is involved in and cares about my daily life." (from Psalm 121:1-2)

Today's Action:

Who can you encourage this week with the hope that comes from God? Write them a note or make a date to remind them of God's love.

hand in
hand
verse by
verse

Deeper Connection Study

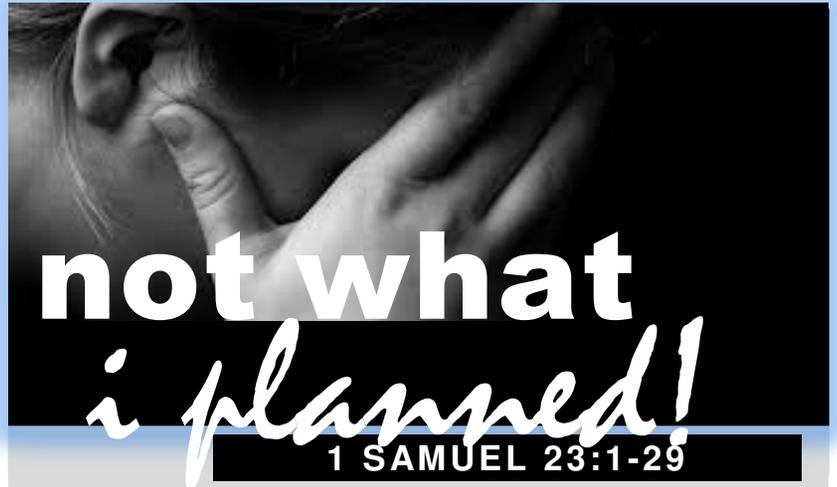
As often as Saul pursues David and entraps him, Yahweh continues to protect his anointed king-in-waiting. We see an obvious contrast as David acts more like a king of Israel than Saul does. Clearly, God's presence with David makes all the difference.

Today's Core Virtue discussed: Faith.

Read 1 Samuel 23

1. Despite being on the run, David goes to battle against the Philistines (vv. 1-6). Why does he do it? How is God leading him even after victory was achieved (vv. 7-14)?
2. Why is it important for you to seek the Lord regarding decisions? How do you "inquire of the Lord?" How does it challenge you to trust God?
3. How does Jonathan encourage David (vv. 16-18)? How do his words mirror David's earlier words to Abiathar (cf. 22:23)?
4. How does biblical encouragement give discouraged people courage to act (cf. II Chron. 32:1-8; Haggai 2:4-5)? What verses encourage you? Why?
5. Why does God permit David to experience many trials at the hands of Saul? What do you think God was teaching David (cf. Psalm 54; II Cor. 12:9-10; Jas. 1:2-4)?
6. When was a situation that someone spoke timely words of encouragement to you? How have you encouraged others in their time of need or distress?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Praise God for the encouragement he gives you through friends and family. Pray that you will be available and eager to encourage others in their time of need.



It is understandable why so many people are experiencing a sense of discouragement. With shootings in the streets of our cities, hatred and acts of violence being carried out on our T.V. screens nightly and politicians slandering one another, who wouldn't be discouraged?

In the 22nd chapter of 1 Samuel we witnessed the horrifying record of eighty-five innocent priests who lost their lives because of the evil rampage of King Saul. In that part of the narrative the author revealed David's sorrow and regret for going to Ahimelech, the head priest, and asking for help. The magnitude of David's remorse and discouragement must have been immense!

One of the amazing aspects of God's nature is His ability to understand our sadness and know how to encourage our souls. Chapter 23 reveals three specific ways that God came alongside David and in order to bring some much needed encouragement.

How about you, are you in need of some encouragement? Do you long for God to come alongside you? Then be encouraged because that is His nature!