David – The Outlaw

May 5, 2024

As you engage in this discussion, follow the Spirit's leading and share your thoughts as you reflect on the message. Work through the discussion guide by reading Scripture and reflecting on a couple of questions and points from the message.

**Opening Question**

* Talk about a time when you showed great patience.

**Read the following scriptures together:**
**1 Samuel 26:9-11**

*But David said to Abishai, “****Don’t destroy him****! Who can lay a hand on the Lord’s anointed and be guiltless? As surely as the Lord lives,” he said, “the Lord himself will strike him, or* ***his time******will come*** *and he will die, or he will go into battle and perish.****But the******Lord******forbid that I should lay a hand on the******Lord’s anointed****. Now* ***get the spear and water jug*** *that are near his head, and let’s go.”*

**Scriptures referenced:**

1 Samuel 28:5-7, 1 Samuel 30:6

**A FEW QUESTIONS TO PONDER DURING YOUR DISCUSSION:**

* Did you learn something new from David’s story this week?
* Talk about how important it is to read and view the Old Testament in its proper context.
* Is there anything from the message that challenged or frustrated you this week?
* How did the message encourage you?

**A FEW POINTS AND QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:**

Saul is desperate and erratic, but David is patient and faithful.

* How did Saul's spiritual desperation reflect in his actions?
* Can you recall any moment in your life when you felt similar desperation?
* Discuss how this story presents human fear and uncertainty. How can we navigate through our fears in our spiritual journey?
* What lessons for our spiritual journey can we learn from Saul's downfall?
* How can we prevent ourselves from reaching a state of spiritual desperation?

**Is God an idea or an active presence?**

Saul’s actions were guided by ideas, David’s by God’s presence. The answer to this question determines the kind of faith you pursue and the kind of faith you pursue determines the fruit you produce. Christian faith is not about ideas, it is about presence.

**CLOSING: PRAY FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR GROUP**

Talk about what it means for God to be more than simply an idea, but truly a presence. How does this lead you to pray for yourself this week?