

Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*



Worship Guide for July 23, 2023

Sermon Notes

Faithful and Fleeing?

1 Samuel 19-20

As we work our way through 1 and 2 Samuel, we come to a desperate and discouraging season in David's life. The tension between Saul, the rejected king (16:1) and David, God's anointed king (16:12-13), reaches an epic level in the closing chapters of 1 Samuel. The Hebrew word messiah means "anointed one," so David is the "messiah" of Israel at this time. And as Psalm 2 declares, one of the rulers of the world is taking his stand "against the Lord and against his anointed".

David is successfully carrying out his responsibilities, he is humbly obeying his superiors, he is esteemed by those who observe his life, but the more David succeeds and the more faithful he is, the greater Saul's jealousy and hatred rages against God's anointed and the more difficult David's life becomes.

Preachers and proponents of the prosperity gospel will have a difficult time making sense of David's life as it is presented in this section of 1 Samuel. David himself has a difficult time making sense of his life and circumstances. We too, are often confused and afraid, having a difficult time making sense of our lives and circumstances.

First, We Need to See the Reality of Three Bedrock Truths for Our Faith: (Romans 8:28-30)

God's gracious calling
God's eternal promises
God's consistent protection

In David's Life We See the Reality That Our Faith Can Be Shaken By Fears and Frustrations That Assail Us. (1 Samuel 19)

Faithful, but facing open hostility
Faithful, but having to flee for your life
Faithful, but relentlessly pursued

In David's Life We See the Reality That Our Faith Can Be Strengthened As We See God Protecting Us. (1 Samuel 19)

Support from friends
Assistance from family
Salvation from God Himself

In David And Jonathan's Lives We See the Reality That Our Faith is Sustained by God's Covenant Love For Us. (1 Samuel 20)

Covenant love that clarifies our confusion
Covenant love that solidifies our future
Covenant love that supersedes our personal ambitions
Covenant love that establishes our peace

Life Group Preparation Guide

"Let the *Word* of Christ *dwell* in you(all) *richly*
teaching and *admonishing* one another in all *wisdom...*"

- *Colossians 3:16a*

Focus #1: GOD

1. What does this passage reveal about the character or nature of God?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's eternal plans and purposes?
3. What does this passage reveal about how God interacts with his creation?

Focus #2: ME

4. How does this passage reveal sin in my own mind, heart, or life?
5. In what ways does this passage help us to see how we need to be aligned with God's will?
6. What is one tangible and measurable way that the Spirit is leading me to respond to his Word?

Focus #3: OTHERS

7. What is one truth that I can share meaningfully with someone, and with whom?
8. How can I specifically encourage someone or everyone in my Life Group from this passage?

Three contributions (reflections, questions, observations, etc.) I plan to include in our next Life Group discussion:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Westwood Staff

Gerald Hodges: Lead Pastor

Jonathan Taylor: Associate Pastor

Jason Engle: Pastor of Students
& Discipleship

Deborah Rudd: Children's Ministry
Coordinator

Yvonne Hager: Executive Assistant

Contact Us

(336)599-1982

westwoodroxboro@gmail.com

www.westwoodfamily.org

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:30am-4:00pm

Mailing Address:

970 Leasburg Road
Roxboro, NC 27573-5470

JULY

All Month - Elder Nominations

24-28 CentriKid Summer Camp @ Ridgecrest

27 Blood Drive (FLC) 10:30am-3pm

30 Communion

31-August 4 Be Do Tell Summer Camp @ Ft. Caswell

AUGUST

25 AHG Talent Showcase @ 6pm

25 Membership Class @ 6pm

27 Communion

28 GriefShare: Loss of Spouse @ 6:30pm

28 AHG/TLU Open Houses @ 6:30pm