

Westwood Baptist Church *Grounded. Growing. Going.*



Worship Guide for October 8, 2023

Sermon Notes

Living IN FAITH from Tragedy to Triumph 1 Samuel 30

Although David never threw off the authority of God like Saul, he certainly followed his own way for a little while finding shelter from Saul with God's enemies - the Philistines. His deceitful and violent ways did not demonstrate faithfulness to God. The dreadful situation David and his men find as they return home to their hometown on fire and their families and possessions taken could very well be the chastising hand of God the Father. One thing is certain - God would use this disaster to restore David to Himself and to prepare him to take his place as God's king of God's people. God uses troubles, trials, and even tragedies for our ultimate good and His Glory. David gives us a lesson in how to return to the Lord if we have wandered into sin territory and have gotten comfortable with the enemy, and he shows us how to live by faith in a broken, hurting, trouble-filled world.

I. Recognize the reality of sin and brokenness in this world and the despair it causes (vs. 1-6a)

II. Respond in Faith when Trials and tragedy come

A. Strengthen yourself in the Lord your God (vs. 6-8)

B. Obey His Direction regardless of circumstances (vs. 9-10)

C. Recognize His Provision (vs. 11-16)

III. Receive God's gracious Victory and give HIM the Glory (vs. 17-20, 23)

IV. Reflect God's justice and generosity (vs. 21-24)

V. Remember God is working out His greater and grander Story (vs. 25-30)

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

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OCTOBER

13 Person vs. E. Alamance @ 7pm

13-15 Trail Life Campout @ Grandfather Mtn

20 Person @ W. Alamance @ 7pm

20 & 21 AHG Campout @ Godwin's

20 & 21 Trail Life @ NC Fall Junction

27 Person vs. Williams @ 7pm

"SENIOR NIGHT"

29 Fall Family Festival 5:30pm-7pm