

Outlaws and Outcasts
Week 3: David
1 Samuel 26

Love God:

Check In Time - Last week you were challenged to consider where God may be calling you to serve him. Have you made concrete steps toward finding a mission?

Grow in Grace:

This third session is about how you handle feelings of mistreatment, betrayal and forgiveness. During your group prayer time ask God to help you if you are struggling with a person or situation in your life that needs healing.

Read: 1 Samuel 26:5-12

1. David has been running from Saul for years. Why do you think he chooses this time to approach? Do you think David is afraid of Saul? Do you think he is trying to avoid a confrontation? How do you feel when you need to address someone who is treating you unfairly?
2. Why does David prevent Abishai from killing Saul? Why does David insist that his own hand will have nothing to do with dethroning Saul? Take some time to discuss the nature of David and Saul's relationship. How does David's reverence for God add to the relationship's complexity?
3. What is significant about David taking the water jug and spear? What does the spear symbolize? The water jug? Why does he give them back to Saul?
4. Is it ever our place to want or to seek revenge? Discuss what society says about revenge and forgiveness.
5. What is the difference between forgiving someone who asks for it versus someone who doesn't acknowledge they have done anything to wrong you?
6. What does it mean to truly forgive? If you still feel anger have you truly forgiven? Is forgiveness once and done? Is it a process? What tools do you use to forgive someone? What about forgiving yourself?
7. Can you offer forgiveness to someone who has wronged you? Can you ask for forgiveness if you have wronged someone else? Ask God for guidance and courage.

"Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Ephesians 4:31-32