



TURNING POINT

SERMON DISCUSSION NOTES FROM 6/20/21

SERMON SUMMARY

Life throws many curve balls that seem to knock us down. In fact, we tend to lose sight when we are going through them. We can be encouraged when we go through such things that we are not alone. We even have stories in Scripture of God's people facing challenging times and persevering through them with God's help. David was a man who had experienced much turbulence in his life. In 1 Samuel 30, we are taken into an intense story in David's life that will forever affect how he would trust God going forward. In many ways, it was a turning point for David's life. Let's take a dive into this powerful story and discover some key principles we can apply as we go through challenging times in our lives.

Key Passage: 1 Samuel 30:1-31

Be sure to read this Scripture passage together before you proceed to the "Grow" section of our study.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

KNOW—Spend some time finding out how everyone's week has gone. The questions in this section provide a guide for connectivity; feel free to approach this part of your group time organically over a meal or "connection" activity or with questions appropriate to your context.

What is one way God is challenging you to trust Him this week?

What are some ways you have experienced God answering your prayers lately?

Who in your life is in need of prayer, physical help, or emotional encouragement right now?

GROW—Grow in the Lord as you engage His Word together.

Briefly reconstruct the situation in which David and his army find themselves. What surprises did they discover when they returned to Ziklag?

How did David distinguish himself as a true leader and man of God through his response in crisis?

What was David's response after he sought the Lord's will in this matter (vs. 7-10)? What lesson can you apply in your own life?

How does the account of David's treatment of the Egyptian function in this narrative? (Hint: It speaks to David's character as well as gives a sense of God's sovereign direction.)

Why is it important that the text says David recovered everything that was lost? How would this have encouraged his men to trust David and, more importantly, to trust God?

What do we learn about the Hand of God in this story?

How is David's great leadership displayed by how he shared the spoil equally with the men who stayed behind? Why was David so willing to share the spoils?

In what ways through this story do you think David is endeared to the Jewish people he led?

In what ways does David's character greatly resemble that of Jesus Christ in this story?

GO—Talk through ways you can put what you've learned into practice.

Think about times when you've experienced all hell breaking loose? Is your response to such things typically like that of David or like that of his men?

What are some practical ways we can "strengthen" ourselves in the Lord when we face crises?

How can we share the blessings of God with others around us, even when it may seem like they don't deserve it?

