

COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

God's prince : Life if David ④

INTRODUCTION | David's community

I want us, in looking at today's scripture, to look at David and his community and through that lens see how the Lord Jesus is in and with our community and relationships. First let's look at who we are in Jesus' community. Secondly I want us to look at work and mission in David's community and think how that affects those of us in community with King Jesus. Thirdly, even as David's community was outcast and forced to wander they never lost focus on the vision and so I want us to spend some time reflecting on our vision. Communal identity, mission, vision.

SCRIPTURE | 1 Samuel 22:1-2 / 23:1-17

1 Samuel 22:1-2

1 David departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. And when his brothers and all his father's house heard it, they went down there to him. 2 And everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was bitter in soul, gathered to him. And he became commander over them. And there were with him about four hundred men.

1 Samuel 23:1-17

23 Now they told David, "Behold, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah and are robbing the threshing floors." 2 Therefore David inquired of the Lord, "Shall I go and attack these Philistines?" And the Lord said to David, "Go and attack the Philistines and save Keilah." 3 But David's men said to him, "Behold, we are afraid here in Judah; how much more then if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?" 4 Then David inquired of the Lord again. And the Lord answered him, "Arise, go down to Keilah, for I will give the Philistines into your hand." 5 And David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines and brought away their livestock and struck them with a great blow. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah. 6 When Abiathar the son of Ahimelech had fled to David to Keilah, he had come down with an ephod in his hand. 7 Now it was told Saul that David had come to Keilah. And Saul said, "God has given him into my hand, for he has shut himself in by entering a town that has gates and bars." 8 And Saul summoned all the people to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men. 9 David knew that Saul was plotting harm against him. And he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod here." 10 Then David said, "O Lord, the God of Israel, your servant has surely heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah, to destroy the city on my account. 11 Will the men of Keilah surrender me into his hand? Will Saul come down, as your servant has heard? O Lord, the God of Israel, please tell your servant." And the Lord said, "He will come down." 12 Then David said, "Will the men of Keilah surrender me and my men into the hand of Saul?" And the Lord said, "They will surrender you." 13 Then David and his men, who were about six hundred, arose and departed from Keilah, and they went wherever they could go. When Saul was told that David had escaped from Keilah, he gave up the expedition. 14 And David remained in the strongholds in the wilderness, in the hill country of the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God did not give him into his hand. 15 David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh. 16 And Jonathan, Saul's son, rose and went to David at Horesh, and strengthened his hand in God. 17 And he said to him, "Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you. Saul my father also knows this."

QUESTIONS |

- 1: (22:1-2) Let's think about David and his community. Who and what were the type of people that gathered around David? Why?
- 2: Who are the people that Jesus has gathered around himself? Think about this in light of David's community

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- 3: (23:1-5) What was the first work David had for his community? From this what do you understand of their mission?
- 4: (23:6-13) When Saul came after David, what was of the response of the people in Keilah? David and his community were not rewarded for the salvation they brought. Have you had a similar experience? Discuss the various roads the Lord has led you on.
- 5: (23:14-17) David and his community of 4 hundred were forced into the wilderness to live as nomadic wanderers. They were in the midst of great difficulty but what remained as their hope?
- 6: what can we learn from the life and hope of David and his community? (Reference Hebrews 11:13).

REFERENCES |

Hebrews 11:13

13 These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth

PRAYER |

- Reflect on who you are as a forgiven, redeemed and loved member of the risen Lord Jesus Christ. In light of this give praise to God.
- In life there is failure and difficulty and may even feel like there is nothing but homeless wandering. Pray that you find joy and new life in faith on Christ.

UPCOMING EVENTS | This Week & Next Week

Lunchtime meeting (10/11 Kudanshita, 10/12 Kasumigaseki, 10/12 Marunouchi, 13 Otemachi)
Lunchtime meeting party (10/12)
Obento Project (10/15)
Art Festival: Broken (10/15)
Walk through the bible study (10/16)
Sunday worship (10/16)
Grace City gospel choir (10/17)
Lunchtime meeting