

Waiting on God
1 Samuel 21:1-22:5
TAG Team Lesson
Week of January 17, 2010

“When I am afraid I will trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust.” Psalm 56:3

In our impatient, instant-everything society, waiting on God is not easy. We often picture waiting as something passive, much like twiddling our thumbs. But waiting on God is intensely active. It requires us to “trust in the Lord with all our heart and lean not on our own understanding (Proverbs 3:5).

In several difficult situations in the chapters ahead, David learns to wait on God. We, in turn, can learn from David.

Cultural Insight:

NOB: A city in the tribe of Benjamin. It was set on a hill and was very near Jerusalem. David often stopped here before embarking on some dangerous undertaking for King Saul. It is not known for certain if the tabernacle was located here at the time of the events that we are looking at today.

The Pressure Is On (21:1-9)

1. According to the passage, what did David need from Ahimelech?

2. Did David give Ahimelech accurate reasons for his coming to Nob? Explain. What does this indicate about David’s reliance upon God at this point?

3. In light of Proverbs 6:16-17, how did God feel about David’s explanation to the priest?

4. To discover the heart attitude of the priest toward David consider the following: The law (Leviticus 24:5-9) allowed the priests to eat the holy bread after it had been offered to the Lord. What did Ahimelech choose to do with the bread that was to have been his?

5. What major contrast do you see between the heart attitudes of David and the priest?

6. The Scripture takes special note that this encounter was observed. Who was this observer? (v. 7).

7. What lessons might be learned from David’s encounter with Ahimelech?

David is Delivered (1 Samuel 21:10-15; Psalms 56 & 34)

8. How would you describe David’s experience at the Philistine city of Gath? (21:10-15).

9. Psalm 56 gives us a glimpse into David’s heart when he was in Gath. Read the psalm and then list David’s feelings concerning his circumstances. (Cite verse references supporting your findings.)

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10. Which phrases in the psalm particularly indicate how much God cares for David?

 11. What is the overall focus of David's psalm?

 12. List the conclusions David came to because of this focus.

 13. Uncover at least two principles in the psalm. Relate each to a specific situation in your life.

 14. Psalm 56 reveals David's thoughts during his dangerous visit to Gath, but Psalm 34 lets us in on David's feelings after his deliverance.

 15. Read Psalm 34. To what or whom does David attribute his deliverance? Support your answer by listing some of the verses that speak of deliverance.

 16. What does this psalm say about God's protection of His children?

 17. What does David say he will do because God protects and delivers? (vv. 1-3).

 18. List some ways you are in need of protection. Apply two of the truths in Psalm 34 to specific needs in your life.

 19. All of us want to have "good days." If you want to see "many good days," what does the psalmist tell you to do? (vv. 12-14).

 20. Read 1 Samuel 22:1-5. Adullam is in north central Judah. Who joins David at Adullam? Why do you think his whole family moved to Moab?

 21. Why did 400 men join David at Adullam? What characteristics of David would have been most important in dealing with such a motley group?

 22. Who commanded David to leave the stronghold and return to Judah (22:5)? Why would this have been a dangerous move? What was God teaching David about real security?
