

Trusting the Lord's Timing and Preparation for Your Discomfort

1 Samuel 26-27

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

Last week we saw that David had a slight run in with a wealthy man named Nabal. When David sent his men to greet Nabal, things didn't go exactly the way that David hoped. In response David gathered his men and headed out to confront Nabal himself. On his way, David was intercepted by Nabal's wife and an offering was made in apology to David and his men. The chapter ended with Nabal dying literally from shock after hearing of what was given to David and then David taking Abigail as his own wife.

Chapter 26 opens up with the Ziphites going to Saul and urging him to again go after David.

Read 26:1-12

Read 26:19-25

Wait for the Lord's timing

1. David had the opportunity to take matters into his own hands and kill Saul.

- a. In our own lives we have the internal battle daily of choosing to lay our burdens and temptations at the feet of Jesus and trusting Him to work for His glory and our good. I will be the first to admit that this is a HARD fought battle every day.

2. David could have expedited his induction as the new king of Israel.

- a. We live in a very here and now culture where any want or desire that we have is practically available at the exact moment it is desired. Because of this we are often tempted to try and force our sanctification and walk with Christ into the same mold and expect His will to fit into our timing when in reality His will is never subject to our timing.
3. David knew that although the kingdom had been promised to him, the favor of the Lord and the success of his reign was fully dependent upon God's timing and preparation, not on forcing what he believed would get him there faster.
- a. We are blessed to have scripture to look to and see a pretty clear picture of the promises of the Lord over our life. Looking forward to what He has for us it can be easy to become frustrated and impatient wanting it all right now. However in the moments of quiet waiting and sometimes chaotic running, just like David, we are sculpted and refined into the disciples of Christ that He has called us to be. Think of the leadership lessons that David learned taking care of the 600+ men that were camping with him. Look at the military training that he was able to learn and perfect during this time that all prepared him for his coming kingship.
 - b. Trust in the Lord's timing in your life
 - c. Trust in the Lord's plan and preparation

Trust in the Lord's Plan and preparation

1. We know that at a young age David was made aware that he was chosen and set apart by the Lord to be the King, David has seen marvelous wonders done by the Lord in his life. This has resulted in a deep trust allowing David to boldly follow God's calling.
2. David calls to Saul in verse 23 saying "The Lord rewards every man for his righteousness and faithfulness" reminding Saul that his life could have been taken with ease, however David chose to leave it to the Lord to take at the proper time and for his own hands to stay clean.
3. Hebrews 6:10 "For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown towards His name."
4. We are told that no one in the army of 3000 men including the commander who was next to Saul woke while David and Ahimelek walked to what appears to be

the center of camp, had a discussion about what to do and then left with a spear and water jug.

- a. How did this happen, because of the Lord's preparation.
- b. David could have taken this for a sign that Saul had been given into his hand to die, but instead he used it to show mercy, again.

Read 27:1-11 This is not the first time that we have seen David with Achish, this is the same man who David came to and when he was not accepted in he acted as a crazy man and Achish said “we have enough crazy men in our city” and sent him away.

Read 27:8-12 David is given a place for him and his men to live and he makes the best of it, not only for now but for his future and the future of Judah as well. David makes raids against the bordering enemies of Judah and leaves no one to tell the tale or to seek revenge on his people.

Even in discomfort, the Lord is providing for your future

1. David reaches the point that he understands in order for Saul to stop pursuing his life he must flee the country that he so dearly loves.
 - a. We get into the mind set that “if the Lord loves me and wants the best for me then He surely would never place me in hardship or remove me from where my heart longs to be.
 - b. When in reality oftentimes the Lord will use those times of discomfort to set the stage for what he still has to come for us.
2. David is given a place of his own for him and his 600 men to live. While there David is able to have strategic raids and battles with the enemies of Judah all the while misleading Achish to believe that he is working for the interests of the philistine people and further burning bridges with Judah.
3. Because of David's wisdom and devotion to the Lord's preparation for His life, not only has he been

Application

In your own life what is one single area that the lord is working in a time frame that doesn't quite align with your own thoughts and desires. I want to challenge you to look around at the preparation that has gone into getting you to this point. Look at the things that had to take place in order for you to be where you are now in that very situation. Some of the things that will come to mind are simply the consequences of your own decisions, maybe you have tried to take things into your own hands along the way and it has not worked out....but many of the steps that it took to get you here were ordained and guided by the lord. And now today you are just ready to be out on the other side of it. Trust in the timing and preparation of the Lord today. We are quick to close up when we are in hard situations and forget all that the Lord has done for us so far and the promises that He still has to us. If you are living in a time of discomfort or what feels like chaos, pause for a moment to look and see where you can keep working for the good of those around you and for your own future that the Lord has called you to.

Life Lessons-

- 1) Be patient. Wait on the Lord's perfect timing .
- 2) Keep trusting. Trust in the Lord's plan and preparation for your life.
- 3) Stay content. Even in seasons of discomfort remember that the Lord is proving for your future.