**1 Samuel 29-30**

**Main: God knows how to get our attention.**

**When God gives you a way of escape, take it!**

**Intro**

**Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid. NIV Prov. 12:1**

* **Discipline = “moral discipline or correction”**
* **“Stupid” = “to be brutish or dull-minded”**

**1 Samuel 29 – David doesn’t get it**

**David really needs to realize when God is trying to help him get out of situations he’s gotten himself into. So do we!**

* **Our lack of trusting the Lord can put us in compromising situations**
* **We need to have the sense to understand when God is trying to help us.**
* **When God gives you a way out, take it.**
* **It may initially irritate you; plans not working out, parents or your job getting in the way; whatever. But it helps to start with reality; God loves you. He’s in charge of life. Open your eyes, but first, open your heart.**

**1 Samuel 30:1-6 – The Disaster**

**Sometimes, apparent disasters are in reality displays of God’s love and power.**

* **At times, things get worse before they get better.**
* **Even when we make mistakes, God can be a refuge to us!**
* **David’s back again!**

**Our lives need to be founded on the reality of God’s forgiveness and mercy, not our emotions.**

**The Pursuit – 30:7-16**

**1 Samuel 30:7-8**

**God will often use difficulties to bring us back to Him.**

**Notice that David, who has not been trusting the Lord, now turns to Him (4-8).**

**Mistakes, rightly responded to, can be great instruments of learning.**

**Unlike Saul, David could count on God for direction and blessing.**

**God favor is directed toward those who respond to Him Pr. 15:7-8**

**1 Samuel 30:9-16**

**It is always God’s will to be kind and merciful.**

**God shows mercy to the merciful - 30:11-15; Ps. 18:25; Mt. 5:7; Jas. 2:13**

**1 Samuel 30:17-20 – The Recovery**

**Sometimes through the difficulties, God blesses a situation more than before the trial.**

**Once again, the mercy and kindness of God shines out.**

**Once again, God uses pressure to bring David back, as He often does us.**

**If God did not give forgiveness and mercy to the sinful, none of us have any chance in life.**

**1 Samuel 30:21-31 – The Celebration**

**1 Samuel 30:21-25**

**When we are shown kindness, we should show kindness.**

**Even in times of blessing and joy, there may be those who will rain on our parade.**

**There are few things as certain as the sin of humanity.**

**1 Samuel 30:26-31**

**Generosity develops relationships – Luke 16:1-9**

**“This chapter presents many qualities that mark strong, effective leadership. These include: empathy (v. 4), faith (vv. 6, 8, 23, 26), decisiveness (v. 10), kindness (v. 12), persistence (v. 17), integrity (v. 23), fairness (v. 24), and generosity (vv. 21-31), to name a few. We can also see development in David's restraint, as compared to his dealings with Nabal (cf. ch. 25). David's effectiveness also contrasts with Saul's ineffectiveness as a leader. Chapters 19—30 reveal that David's behavior improved as a result of the adversity that he had to endure (cf. James 1:2-4; 1 Pet. 1:6- 7).”**

**Dr. Tom Constable’s notes on 1 Samuel, p. 214, at soniclight.com**

* **Hebrews 12:3-17 – Responding properly to God’s child-training**
* **“Discipline” = “child-training”**
* **Our development at “sons” to inherit in the Kingdom**

**God knows how to get our attention**

**The question is: What will it take for us to respond?**