

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 14:1-15
Sermon Title: Recapturing Perhaps

Recapture Perhaps

One day Jonathan son of Saul said to his young armor-bearer, “Come, let’s go over to the Philistine outpost on the other side.” But he did not tell his father.

² Saul was staying on the outskirts of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree in Migron. With him were about six hundred men, ³ among whom was Ahijah, who was wearing an ephod. He was a son of Ichabod’s brother Ahitub son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the Lord’s priest in Shiloh. No one was aware that Jonathan had left.

⁴ On each side of the pass that Jonathan intended to cross to reach the Philistine outpost was a cliff; one was called Bozez and the other Seneh. ⁵ One cliff stood to the north toward Mikdash, the other to the south toward Geba.

⁶ Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, “Come, let’s go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. Perhaps the Lord will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few.”

⁷ “Do all that you have in mind,” his armor-bearer said. “Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul.”

⁸ Jonathan said, “Come on, then; we will cross over toward them and let them see us. ⁹ If they say to us, ‘Wait there until we come to you,’ we will stay where we are and not go up to them. ¹⁰ But if they say, ‘Come up to us,’ we will climb up, because that will be our sign that the Lord has given them into our hands.”

¹¹ So both of them showed themselves to the Philistine outpost. “Look!” said the Philistines. “The Hebrews are crawling out of the holes they were hiding in.” ¹² The men of the outpost shouted to Jonathan and his armor-bearer, “Come up to us and we’ll teach you a lesson.”

So Jonathan said to his armor-bearer, “Climb up after me; the Lord has given them into the hand of Israel.”

¹³ Jonathan climbed up, using his hands and feet, with his armor-bearer right behind him. The Philistines fell before Jonathan, and his armor-bearer followed and killed behind him. ¹⁴ In that first attack Jonathan and his armor-bearer killed some twenty men in an area of about half an acre.

¹⁵ Then panic struck the whole army—those in the camp and field, and those in the outposts and raiding parties—and the ground shook. It was a panic sent by God.

1 Samuel 14:1-15

Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, “Come, let’s go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. **Perhaps the Lord will act in our behalf.** Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few.”

Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.” ¹⁶ As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil.

James 4:15-16

Perhaps is not hiding his doubt, it’s exposing his humility.

Attempting great things for God entails having a posture of humility.

Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, “Come, let’s go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. Perhaps the Lord will act in our behalf. **Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few.**”

God’s character, not circumstances, is setting the expectations.

Let God’s character set your expectations.

Attempting great things for God entails confidence that is primarily fueled by who God is not what could be.

“Do all that you have in mind,” his armor-bearer said. **“Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul.”**

Healthy relationships are transformative.

Attempting treating things for God entails having the right people in your corner in the right ways.

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So Jonathan said to his armor-bearer, **“Climb up after me; the Lord has given them into the hand of Israel.”**

Attempting great things for God entails ongoing discernment and stewarding the opportunities God has given you.

Attempting great things for God is for the glory of Jesus & the good of all people.

Recapture perhaps and attempt great things for God.

Areas of Consideration:

What is a broken relationship in your life that is worth recapturing perhaps for?

Who is a non-Christian in your life that is worth recapturing perhaps for?

What is an endeavor for Jesus that is worth recapturing perhaps for?