

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of March 14th, 2021

Sermon: "Waiting and Trusting in God's Hand of Providence"

Text: 1 Samuel 24



BEHOLD THE KING

The Book of First Samuel

SUMMARY

God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure with three divine purposes: 1) God Tests Our Heart of Peace-filled Submission, 2) God Trains Our Heart of Persevering-Faith; and 3) God Transforms Our Heart to Trust in Divine Providential Protection.

FOR GROUPS

What does God's providence mean? What are some examples of God's providential working in 1 Samuel 24? How has God shown you his hand of providence in your life?

What are some examples in your life of how fear caused you to respond foolishly? What's an example in your life of how you responded to fear by faithfully waiting on the Lord to reveal his peace and wisdom to you? What were the results?

An example of David's peace-filled and faithful action is when he confronts Saul's paranoia of misinformation in verse 9. Often, conflicts arise due to hearsay and based on incomplete information but there is no actual evidence of wrongdoing. What are some reconciling steps that you would take to speak the truth in love and try to resolve a situation where someone is causing you relational harm?

Have you felt the Spirit's conviction that you have gossiped or slandered someone? When conflict occurs, how does sitting back and waiting for the other person to make the first move result in further problems?

Who might you be avoiding that you should humbly pursue in peace? Are you waiting on them to move first? Why not rather go to them, clarify the situation and respectfully reconcile what has possibly turned into a misconception based on misinformation?

Our words should be consistent with our Christian testimony. James 3:9-12, says that blessings and curses should not come from the same mouth anymore and the salt water and freshwater can come from the same spring. And John 13:35, Jesus says, but this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. Each time we open them out to speak we have the power to bless others as representatives of Jesus Christ. Our words reflect our heart and our relationship with Jesus Christ. The key to protecting your tongue is to protect your heart. Proverbs 4:23 calls the heart the "wellspring of life." Discuss these how these points impact your witness for Christ?