

# ***“Lessons from the Life of David” – Pastor Jim Ruddy***

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## **Study # 7 – From Faith To Fear**

## **Selected Scripture**

### **I. FAITHFUL IN THE LIGHT**

#### **A. DAVID’S CONFIDENCE BEFORE GOLIATH 1 Sam. 17**

- David stood in faith before Goliath, knowing the power of God was resident in his life. cf. 1 Sam. 16:13
- David’s “faith declaration” - 1 Sam. 17:45
  - *“I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts!”*

#### **B. DAVID COWARDICE BEFORE SAUL 1 Sam. 18, 19 & 20**

- Out of jealousy, Saul *“became David’s enemy continually.”* 1 Sam. 18:29; 19:1, 10, 11; *“So David fled and escaped.”* 19:18
- David ran in fear from Saul, forgetting the promises of God that had been declared over his life. cf. 1 Sam. 16:1
- David’s “fear declaration” - 1 Sam. 20:3
  - *“there is but a step between me and death.”*
- There is often little distance between our songs and our sighs; our triumphs and our trials! cf. Ex. 15:1; 15:22-24
- David’s response is similar to Elijah’s, who stood before the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, but fled before one woman. 1 Ki. 18:17 - 19:1
- Satan’s work is quite evident. cf. Heb. 2:14-15 – *“fear of death”*

### **II. FAITHLESS IN THE FOG**

#### **A. DAVID LIES TO HIS FRIENDS**

##### **1. HIS INCLUSION OF JONATHAN 1 Sam. 20**

- David took advantage of his covenant friendship by asking Jonathan to lie for him. v4-8
- This action almost cost Jonathan his life. v27-33

##### **2. HIS DECEPTION OF AHIMELECH 1 Sam. 21**

- David took advantage of his godly relationships by lying to Ahimelech to gain his support. v1-7
- This action did cost Ahimelech his life. cf. 1 Sam. 22:16-19

#### **B. DAVID RELIES UPON HIS FLESH 1 Sam. 21**

##### **1. HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE SWORD OF GOLIATH v8-9**

- *David said, “There is none like it; give it to me.”* v9
- David, who at one time rejected Saul’s armor, now adopts his enemy’s methods. cf. 1 Sam. 17:38-39; 45

##### **2. HIS RESIDENCE IN THE TOWN OF GOLIATH v10**

- *“David arose and fled..., and went to Achish the king of Gath.”*
- Gath = Heb. = *“winepress!”* cf. 2 Cor. 1:8; 4:8-12

### **III. FEARFUL IN THE DARK**

#### **A. ITS DISORIENTATION**

##### **1. DAVID'S FEAR OF SAUL 1 Sam. 21:10**

- "*David arose and fled...*" 1 Sam. 21:10
- While at one time the enemy fled from David (19:8), he is now the one who is running! 1 Sam. 19:10, 12, 18, 20:1; 21:10

##### **2. DAVID'S FEAR OF ACHISH 1 Sam. 21:10-15**

- In his desperation to survive, David not only compromised his integrity, but also his dignity. cf. Ps. 34; 56 (Annotations)

#### **B. ITS ACCELERATION**

- Taking matters into his own hands, David spins downward, from superman (1 Sam. 18:7), to madman (1 Sam. 21:12-13), to caveman (1 Sam. 22:1).

### **IV. RESTFUL IN THE NIGHT**

- "*David therefore departed from there, and escaped to the cave Adullam...*" {Heb. = "*sealed off place of rest / justice*"} 1 Sam. 22:1
- David eventually emerges from his lapse of faith, and in the "*sealed off place*" of Adullam, regains his grip on God. cf. Ps. 142

#### **Psalms 34, 57, & 142 reflect the refocusing of David's vision and tell us what to do when the lights go out:**

##### **A. DON'T RUN; STAND! Ps. 34 - *Remember who you are!***

- Resist the tendency to run from your adversities, but instead, stand firm in your faith, confident in the fact that you are a child of God full of great promise and potential. cf. 1 Sam. 16:1
- "*The angel of the LORD encamps all around those that fear Him!*" Ps. 34:7 cf. Ex. 14:13; Eph. 6:10-18

##### **B. DON'T DOUBT; TRUST! Ps. 57- *Remember Whose you are!***

- Remember that you belong to a merciful God who can be trusted even in the dark! In the good times, praise His Name, in the bad times, do the same! *'My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast: I will sing and give praise.'* Ps. 57:7

##### **C. DON'T FEAR; PRAY! Ps. 142 - *Remember Who He is!***

- Reject any thought of relying upon the flesh and present your need to the Lord. Be confident that *He knows your path and He will deal bountifully with you.* Ps. 142:3,7