

## Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

## Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

## ONE STEP FORWARD, TWO STEPS BACK

### 1 Samuel 26:1-28:2

**Main Thought:** In 1 Samuel 26 & 27, we can learn a couple of lessons from the highs and lows of David's walk with the Lord.

1. A HIGH: RETURNING \_\_\_\_\_ FOR EVIL ONCE AGAIN (26:1-25)

- 1) David spares his \_\_\_\_\_ again. (vv 1-12)
- 2) David proclaims his \_\_\_\_\_. (vv 13-20)
- 3) Saul's \_\_\_\_\_ and plea. (v 21)
- 4) David's righteousness and \_\_\_\_\_. (vv 22-25)
- 5) How do we gain and \_\_\_\_\_ righteousness and faithfulness?

2. A LOW: GIVING INTO \_\_\_\_\_ ONCE AGAIN (27:1-28:2)

- 1) Why was David among the \_\_\_\_\_? (27:1-4)
- 2) How was David \_\_\_\_\_ by the Philistines? (27:5-7)
- 3) How did David \_\_\_\_\_ among the Philistines? (27:8-12)
- 4) Will David \_\_\_\_\_ for the Philistines against Israel? (28:1-2)
- 5) How can we resist the \_\_\_\_\_ to give into fear?

### **ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS**

1. Read 1 Samuel 26:1-28:2 and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth to you as you read.

2. What do you learn about God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) from this passage?

3. What do you learn about human beings/yourself from this passage?

4. What verse meant the most to you? Why?

5. What didn't you understand in the passage? What answers did you find for your questions?

6. What application(s) for your life do you take away from this passage?

Digging deeper:

7. Compare 1 Sam. 26 with David's encounter with Saul in 1 Sam. 24. What are the similarities and differences? How has God humbled Saul? Exalted David?

8. Where do David and Abishai go? What advice does Abishai give to David? Why does David refute it?

9. What did David take from Saul? Why?

10. What did David do next from a safe distance? What did he say and to whom?

11. Who recognized David's voice? What did David say to Saul? How did Saul respond? Why didn't David accept Saul's offer to return with him?

12. How did David display righteousness and faithfulness to the Lord in this passage?

13. What were Saul's parting words to David?

14. How do you account for the change in David's demeanor and confidence at the end of chapter 26 and the beginning of chapter 27?

15. How was David treated by the Philistines? How did David behave among the Philistines?