



IN SEARCH OF THE KING

Community Group Questions

1 Samuel 30
Restoring Order

READ

1 Samuel 30

SOME QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND REFLECTION

Briefly recap chapters 27-29. How would you describe both David's life and his relationship with God in those chapters?

As David returns to Ziklag, how does his life go from really bad to totally devastating?

How does David's response in verse 6 to the desperate situation he's in differ from his response in 27:1?

What might it mean for David to strengthen himself in the Lord his God? Does the text and context of 1 Samuel provide any clues?

Looking at verses 16-20, what is being emphasized about who achieved the victory over the Amalekites and what it was that was achieved?

In verses 21-31, the generosity of David is seen. What is the driving reason behind him sharing the spoils of victory with everyone? (Hint: see v.23)

As David emerges here as God's true king, there are references back to earlier chapters in 1 Samuel that distinguish David from Saul.

- Consider the significance of David obeying God and defeating the Amalekites in light of 1 Samuel 15.
- Consider the significance of David's generosity in light of 1 Samuel 8.

How would you summarize the kind of king David shows himself to be here and the kind of kingdom he will rule over?

FOCUS

After a period of darkness and destruction, God now begins – on the 'third day' – to bring about rescue and renewal through His mighty and generous king. Therefore, as Saul declines, David is being established as God's true king over His people – a king who is strengthened in God, guided by God, brings complete victory, and who gives generously to his brothers. In this way, we once again see David foreshadowing Jesus.

OPENING QUESTION

Why do you think so many of the most loved stories have a happy ending?



CLOSING REFLECTION AND APPLICATION

Do you find any encouragement and strength in seeing this reversal from death and suffering to life and glory?

How does this passage help you to better understand Jesus and His kingship?

In what ways does this chapter provide us with a living illustration of the gospel?

In what way does the gospel story of God's grace provide a message of hope unlike any other story the world can tell?

Reflect on the fact that Jesus will not lose any of those whom the Father has given Him (John 6:39). How does that truth impact your life?

Reflect on the fact that Jesus is not ashamed to call us His brothers (Hebrews 10:11). How does that truth impact your life?

Reflect on the fact that Jesus calls His disciples His friends for whom He lays down His life (John 15:13-15). How does that truth impact your life?

Consider how the principle of grace and generosity that defined David's kingdom, now defines Jesus' kingdom and His church. What passages might you look at to think more deeply about this and how to apply it to our own context?