



Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

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Covenant Moments that **MARKED** David's Life

Message preached on Sunday Morning, May 25, 2025

I am fascinated with the life of David (shepherd to king)...and there are so many things that I find fascinating.
Among them...

- 1.) He never lost a battle. Only new victory.

ESSENTIAL: He had many battles...many delays.

OF COURSE: We can learn from that...delay isn't denial...battles don't mean you are not chosen...
etc.

- 2.) Of all the things he is known for (battles, victory, bloodshed), he is known most for his praise and worship.

NOTE: Not just a good jam...but the intimacy of time alone with God.

So much so, that the only book written by him was a book of songs.

He loved to sing and have those sweet times with God.

1 Samuel 16:23 – “And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.”

- 3.) He was called a man after God's own heart.

1 Samuel 13:14 – “But now thy kingdom shall not continue: **the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart**, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.”

Acts 13:22 – “And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, **a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.**”

In 1 Samuel, “**after God's own heart**” – courage, tender, in the middle of mind and heart.

IN OTHER WORDS: He resided in the middle of God's own heart and mind. He just wanted to do what God wanted him to do.

Even if it was weird...not the norm...he would do it.

NOTE: He was consistently enquiring of the Lord. Because he wanted to know His heart.

The Shift

You may ask...well, Pastor Thad, glad you like David. Why you bringing him up?

EARLIER in the week, God began talking to me about covenant relationships...

He was reminding me that we need to stay sharp in it...don't get sloppy.

It is easy to get sloppy...it is easy to get busy with life and let areas of covenant relationship go.

COVENANT DEFINED: "An intimate, intricate and binding relationship between two or more people that unites their strengths in order to eliminate their weaknesses."

BELOVED: God didn't put us together by accident...He put us together for a purpose...for each of us to increase...for us to make a difference together.

God spoke to me years ago, "Covenant relationships will dictate how far my ministry goes."

As I was meditating on this area, my request became...if I am going to preach on this, I don't want to just rehash an old message...I want it fresh.

God immediately took me to FIVE...yes FIVE...**covenant moments that MARKED David's Life.**

Moments in which we can learn how to live victorious lives.

Moments that may break our hearts, but will make us people after God's heart.

Five Covenant Moments in David's Life

1.) 1 Samuel 17 – God first!

Of course we know the story...David and Goliath.

1 Samuel 17:36 – "Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this **uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them**, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God."

The fact that David brought up circumcision was because what he was getting ready to do had EVERYTHING to do with Israel's covenant with ALMIGHTY GOD.

David wasn't fighting because he was a great warrior...he was fighting because he had God with Him.

Everything David did that day was due to his covenant relationship with God.

After all, he was a man after God's own heart.

BELOVED: You are never TOO CLOSE to God, to NOT walk in covenant relationship with His people.

The most important covenant you will ever have is with God, Himself.

Knowing Him...spending time with Him...sticking with Him...staying in step with Him.

Most people struggle to love others, because their person relationship with God is struggling.

David didn't struggle with covenant with people...because he had his first priority set in stone.

2.) 1 Samuel 18 – Loyalty & Intimacy

1 Samuel 18:3-5

3 Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.

4 And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle.

5 And David went out whithersoever Saul sent him, and behaved himself wisely: and Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

This seems to be David's first personal covenant relationship that we know of.

It seems his relationship with his brothers was at least strained.

What do we learn through this relationship?

LOYALTY – David loved Jonathan, even though it put his life in danger.

Jonathan loved David, even though it would cost him the throne.

There was a commitment (eventually one way) that put the other one first, in spite of what it meant for the other.

There was a season that if you saw one...you saw the other.

They were committed to each other.

BELOVED: What about you and those that God has connected you to?

INTIMACY – a state of closeness and connection between individuals, encompassing emotional, physical, intellectual, and other aspects of a relationship.

It involves vulnerability, trust, and a willingness to be known, fostering a deeper understanding and connection between people.

This can include accountability.

Living life in front of each other.

AGAIN: Are you living life with your covenant partners...or just attending church?

IMPORTANT: Vulnerability has the return of loyalty.

3.) 1 Samuel 22 - Responsibility

1 Samuel 22:1-2

1 David therefore departed thence, and escaped to the cave Adullam: and when his brethren and all his father's house heard it, they went down thither to him.

2 And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

So David is being chased by Saul...being hunted...Jonathan has left him...so what does a man do?

He runs to a cave to hide...by himself...no one else.

THINK of the emotions...feelings he had going on?

His family heard about it and came to hang with him.

What would a family do? Pat him on the back to make him feel better?!

What does God do?

Sends him 400 men whose life is messed up in some way and tells David that he is not responsible for them. Yah!

BELOVED: Covenant will never function in your life without you TAKING RESPONSIBILITY for others.

You will never see victory (like David) without taking responsibility for others.

QUESTION: What is your area of responsibility in this church?

QUESTION: Who are you responsible over?

Your spouse.

Your children.

Your church and everything that goes on in the church.

You pastors.

The person connected to you that sits next to you.

4.) 1 Samuel 30 – Equal rewards.

You say, "But this is Pastor Thad's church!" He is the one who will get the credit.

1 Samuel 30 tells us an account of David and his men coming back to their homes, from battle...only to find that the Amalekites had plundered their homes, took their families, etc.
 It was dire...the men were angry and sad...wept until they had no more power to weep. Then they got an idea...let's kill David (of course).
 David encouraged himself, then enquired of the Lord. God told him to go after the Amalekites to get their stuff back.

1 Samuel 30:9-10 (NASB)

9 So David left, he and the six hundred men who were with him, and they came to the brook Besor, where some who were left behind stayed.
 10 But David pursued, he and four hundred men, for ***two hundred who were too exhausted to*** cross the brook Besor stayed behind.

So, David and the four hundred men left all the extra stuff with the two hundred men, to guard it...and they would be able to pursue the Amalekites unhindered.

1 Samuel 30:17-20 – David beat the crazy out of the Amalekites.
 Got all their stuff back...and plundered the Amalekites.
 They came away with a lot of stuff.

1 Samuel 30:21-22 – The 400 go back to the 200 and begin celebrating...and David begins sharing stuff with them, but the 400 men (who were called evil) began complaining, because the 200 didn't fight.

1 Samuel 30:23-24 (NASB)

23 But David said, "You must not do so, my brothers, with what the LORD has given us, for He has protected us and handed over to us the band of raiders that came against us.
 24 "And who will listen to you in this matter? For as is the share of the one who goes down into the battle, so shall be the share of the one who stays by the baggage; they shall share alike."

THE POINT? Beloved, as long as you take your responsibility in covenant...you will receive the same reward...because we are a team.

ILLUSTRATION: Ryne's freshman year in high school. They went to state...Ryne got a ring...though he did very little.

An assistant coach told me, "Every day in practice where Ryne guarded our point guard (All-State, Kentucky All-Star team, etc.) and made him work to get better. He was doing what we needed him to do. He has as much right to that ring as the point guard."

5.) 2 Samuel 9 – Binding/Stick with it!

2 Samuel 9:1 – "And David said, Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake?"

Jonathan is gone...long gone!
 He was suppose to be next to David on the throne.
 David was still committed.

BELOVED: What could separate you from your covenant relationships?

- ~ An extra big battle?
- ~ Offense?
- ~ Busyness?

Romans 8 – Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Conclusion

We all get the reward.

- 1.) Every battle that David won...his men won.
- 2.) 1 Chronicles 29:3-9
David was rich...his men were rich.