

# After God's Own Heart: The Life of David

## *Lesson 8: Grace at the Brook*

As we have studied through 1 Samuel together, what has stood out to you about the lives of Saul and David? Share it with the person next to you.

### David and Achish (1 Samuel 29)

- David wound up staying with the Philistines for 16 months. Doesn't sin often work that way – you end up staying longer than you originally intended?
- Consider the account of Lot in the Old Testament – Lot moved his tent outside of Sodom in Genesis 13:12, but by 19:1, Lot lived in Sodom and was one of the men sitting at the gate. Can you think of ways that sin draws us in and “keeps us longer than we want to stay?”
- Achish finds no fault in David, but the Philistine generals are worried that David might turn against them in battle. They still remember what has been sung about his success in battle.
- They ask the question, “How could this fellow reconcile himself to his God?”
- There is a little bit of irony in the way Achish approves of David, and eventually releases him.

### David and the Philistines (1 Samuel 30)

- When David and his men arrived back at Ziklag, they saw that their wives and children were gone. We can only imagine the pain they experienced. Can you identify with David as he experiences this dark pain? What can we do to deal with these times in life?
- David is also at a point in which his men were thinking about putting him to death. He has lost his family, and now he is in danger of losing his life.
- They find an Egyptian servant, and rather than letting him die, they give him food and water. He eventually tells them where to find the Amalekites.
- Of David's 600 men, 200 were too tired to proceed with them, so they stayed behind. There were some who did not want to share the spoil with them, since they had stayed behind. Those individuals are described as “wicked” and “worthless.”
- Check out Jesus' parable in Matthew 20:1-16. How does that connect with David's decision in this chapter? What can we learn from it?
- In verse 24, David stresses that those who stayed behind were given an equal share of the spoil. In what ways can we apply that lesson to ministry? What about mission work?
- David saved both of his wives. David's son will also have multiple wives – how can we deal with that issue in the Old Testament? According to Jesus in Matthew 19:3-6, what is God's plan?