

David: After God's Heart

God's works and presence are to be celebrated by His people.



TRANSFORMATION
for Adult LifeGroups

2 SAMUEL 5:9-12; 6:12-19 - CELEBRATED

JUNE 13, 2018/JUNE 17, 2018

TODAY'S TEXT

Text: 2 SAMUEL 5:9-12; 6:12-19 (NIV), *David occupied[j] the fortress, naming it the City of David. He[k] built up the surroundings from the terrace ramparts[l] inward. 10 David became more and more esteemed because the Lord God of the Heavenly Armies was with him. 11 Later, King Hiram of Tyre sent a delegation to David, accompanied by cedar[m] logs, carpenters, and stone masons. They built a palace for David. 12 So David concluded[n] that the Lord had established him as king over Israel and that he had exalted his kingdom in order to benefit his people Israel.*

Later on, David was informed, "The Lord has blessed the home of Obed-edom and everything he has since he's in possession[g] of the Ark of God." So David went out joyfully and brought up the Ark of God to the City of David from Obed-edom's home. 13 After those who were carrying the ark of the Lord had taken six steps, he sacrificed oxen and fattened animals, 14 dancing in front of the Lord with all of his strength and wearing a linen ephod. 15 So David and the entire assembly[h] of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting and trumpet blasts. 16 As the ark of the Lord was coming into the City of David, Saul's daughter Michal was peering out a window, watching King David jumping and dancing in the Lord's presence, and she despised him in her heart. 17 They brought in the ark of the Lord, set it in place inside the tent that David had erected for it, and David sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings in the presence of the Lord. 18 After David had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of the Heavenly Armies 19 and distributed to all the people—the entire multitude of Israel, including both men and women—a cake made of bread, one made of dates, and one made of raisins to each one. Then all the people left, each headed for home.

FIRST THOUGHTS

Families celebrate birthdays, holidays, and special occasions differently across the world. We all have our customs in our families that, when observed by outsiders, may lead people to question our methods of celebration. But one thing that should never be up for debate when we celebrate with our families is our love for them. The same is true when we worship God. David teaches us in this setting that we should celebrate the presence of the Lord in a way that our love for Him cannot be questioned; instead our worship should lead people to celebrate Him as well. Only when believers have their love and celebration for the Lord in proper perspective can their love for others be celebrated in the way God intended.

UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT

In this week's study, we see something of the worship practice of the ancient Israelites. We also see how they, like us, could be judgmental. If anything, David's surprising way of expressing his love for God should remind us that people celebrate God and His work in different ways.

At the deaths of both •Abner (2 Sam. 3:17-27) and •Ish-Bosheth (4:1-8), David responded appropriately and his influence became stronger as a result. Waiting on the Lord to exalt him and show him the path on which to proceed was David's normative approach. Refusing to kill Saul on multiple occasions demonstrated David's submission to God's purpose and ways. However, He was no indecisive leader. David dealt swiftly and severely with those who usurped the authority of the Lord (4:9-12). He would lead his people into battle but not without the counsel and direction of the Lord (5:17-25). Because of these leadership practices, the new king of Israel would come to be honored and celebrated by the people. Yet he himself always pointed to the Lord as the true object of Israel's praise.

While still at Hebron, the leaders of Israel came to David and offered the kingship to him (5:1-3). They made a clear statement to David that he was a man of the people, connected to them by kinship. They also acknowledged that although Saul had previously held the office of king, David had functioned as their leader in battle (5:2). Wise leaders realize that positional leadership and actual leadership are not always the same thing. While Saul held the title of king, David occupied the supreme place in the hearts of the people. Offering him the kingship therefore was the logical move for the nation. It was David, however, who made a covenant with the people before God. This marked the official and spiritual establishment of his relationship with them.

EXPLORE THE TEXT

RECOGNIZED

> Read 2 Samuel 5:9-12

° How did each of David's actions provide opportunities to celebrate God's presence and work?

° What habits help you to hear from God?

- ° Through what people and processes did God provide resources for accomplishing His plans for David? Through what people and processes has God done this for you?

HONORED

> Read 2 Samuel 6:12-16

- ° People celebrated God's works and presence in a series of actions. Name some of those actions from these verses and how each celebrated God.
- ° Why is obedience the most powerful way to worship God?
- ° For what possible reasons did Michal despise David as she observed him leading the processional with dancing?

CELEBRATED

> Read 2 Samuel 6:17-19

- ° How did the celebration continue with the ark now in Jerusalem?
- ° How is planning a part of honoring God? What would we miss if we limited celebrations to those that are spontaneous or emotional only?

SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE

Believers honor God by worshiping Him in obedient ways. He also commands us to celebrate Him.

What are some ways to celebrate God's works and presence in the day to day? What are some special occasions of yours that mean much to God? What traditions do we want to pass on in our culture to the next generation?

Personal Challenge: This week find ways you can worship God at work, at home, and as a special occasion.

UPCOMING LESSONS

- Read 2 Samuel 6:20-7:7
- Think about promises you have made and not kept. What needs to be fixed?
- Have you ever felt like God promised something to you and didn't deliver?

LIFE OF DAVID - BIBLE READING PLAN - Week 3

Monday, June 18: 1 Samuel 26, Psalm 63, 142 **Tuesday, June 19:** 1 Samuel 27-28 **Wednesday, June 20:** 1 Samuel 29, Psalm 23
Thursday, June 21: 1 Samuel 30, Psalm 107 **Friday, June 22:** 1 Samuel 31, Psalm 28

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

18th - 1 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 18-19; Colossians 4 | **19th** - 2 Kings 1-3; Psalm 82; 1 Timothy 1 | **20th** - 2 Kings 4-5; Psalm 83; 1 Timothy 2 | **21st** - 2 Kings 6-7; 2 Chronicles 20; 1 Timothy 3 | **22nd** - 2 Kings 8-9; 2 Chronicles 21; 1 Timothy 4 | **23rd** - 2 Kings 10; 2 Chronicles 22-23; 1 Timothy 5 | **24th** - 2 Kings 11-12; 2 Chronicles 24; 1 Timothy 6