

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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David: A Man After God's Own Heart – Part 4

Max Lucado says, “I don’t mind being a pilgrim as long as I can call home as often as I want to.” In times of uncertainty and distress, it’s reassuring to have a “home base.” As David rose to fame in Israel, he became the object of King Saul’s irrational hatred and soon was fleeing for his life. But in the midst of this chaos, God provided a home base for David---friends and protection---teaching David that he could turn to God in a crisis.

- How do you usually respond to a crisis? Why?

Read 1 Samuel 18:1-16

- What new relationship enters David’s life (verses 1-4)? How might this make things easier for him? How might it also complicate his life?
- Who is pleased with David’s new prominence, and why (verses 5,7,16)?
- What negative emotions begin to grow in Saul (verses 8-15)?
- What repeated phrase (verses 12,14) gives the secret of David’s growing success? What character qualities does David display in this chapter that show he is following after God?

Read 1 Samuel 19:1-18

- How does Jonathan speak with his father about Saul’s reasons for taking David’s life? (verse 5)? How effective was his plea (verse 6)?

- What reason did David have to fear for his life (verse 10)? Describe how David escaped from Saul. Where did he go?

Read 1 Samuel 20

- Describe the covenant love between Jonathan and David (verses 8,13-17, 23, 41-42). How lasting and deep was it?
- Why was Jonathan concerned about making this covenant with David?

Read Psalm 59

- David wrote this psalm after his escape from Saul. What does David affirm about God? Could you “sing praise” in similar circumstances?

Points to Ponder

- What impresses you most about the relationship in these tense and emotional scenes?