

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

DEALING WITH DOUBT

I SAMUEL 27:1-12

FEBRUARY 11TH, 2024

- I. David's Plan: vs. 1-4
- II. David's Place: vs. 5-7
- III. David's Practice: vs. 8-12
- IV. Three Ways to Deal with Doubt
 - 1) Identify your doubt
 - 2) Doubt your doubts
 - 3) Remind yourself that God is faithful even when you lack faith

Questions:

1. David was very vulnerable to fear and temptation after a massive victory in passing the temptation in chapter 26. When are you most susceptible to fear and temptation?
2. Why is it so surprising to see David demonstrate doubt and fear in this chapter?
3. In the sermon, it was mentioned that "fear is envisioning a future devoid of God's goodness". Share a time in your life in which you fell into fearful living. In what ways can we live "fearlessly" and what is the role of God's Word in combatting fear?
4. David's "if only" fallacy "(if only I could be free from Saul's pursuit of me)" led him to Philistia where he made a number of poor decisions. It was driven out of a fear of perishing at the hand of Saul. Are you falling into an "if only" fallacy right now? If so, what is it and how can the group pray for you?
5. Open it up to the group and share a time in which you wrestled with doubt and what you learned through it.

Spend a few minutes discussing the 3 ways to deal with your doubt:

6. Why is it so important to identify your doubts? What does this look like practically?
 - Acknowledge them; do not ignore them
 - Recognize what kind of doubt it is: sinful unbelief, questioning curiosity, momentary, life-long, intellectual, caused by personal experience, etc.
7. What does "doubting your doubts" look like?
8. Why is it so important to remind yourself of the faithfulness of God especially when you lack faith? What does this look like practically?