

After God's Heart

Lesson 13

2 Samuel 15:13-37

March 31, 2019

Tenacious Loyalty

Introduction

Seventeenth-century author John Donne coined the phrase, "No man is an island," in his book titled by the famous quote. His main point in writing is to essentially say that no human being, whether they realize it or not, is truly self-sufficient. We all in some way, shape, or form, rely on others, even those who might self-proclaim themselves as "lone wolves."

This idea is spread out across the Bible and is made especially clear in the life of David. Earlier in his life, he had a completely faithful and reliable friend in Jonathan, King Saul's son. However, in an unfortunate twist, David's son Absalom turned his back completely on his father. Now David has to trust once more in his friends as he heads into exile, hiding in safety from his son's rebellion.

The question for us as followers of Christ is "How will we be loyal and faithful friends to one another?" Let's see how David's friends show incredible loyalty to him in a time of upheaval.

Memory verse: "But Ittai replied to the king, "As surely as the LORD lives, and as my lord the king lives, wherever my lord the king may be, whether it means life or death, there will your servant be."—2 Samuel 15:21

Pray and read 2 Samuel 15:13-37. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

What does the passage say?

1. Why does David have to flee and how do his officials respond? (2 Samuel 15:13-15)
2. Who all comes in the company with David into exile? (2 Samuel 15:16-18)
3. Who stays with David despite being from another country? What does he say to David? (2 Samuel 15:19-22)
4. What was the reaction of many people when they saw David fleeing? (2 Samuel 15:23)
5. What were David's instructions concerning the ark of the covenant? What did he instruct the priests to do when they returned to the city? (2 Samuel 15:25-29)
6. What was David's state of mind as he left the city? What was his prayer about his former advisor Ahithophel? (2 Samuel 15:30-31)

7. What mission was Hushai sent on by David?
(2 Samuel 15:32-37)

What does the passage mean?

1. Loyalty amongst friends is a common theme throughout the Bible, but especially in the book of Proverbs. What do these verses say about how friendship should look from a biblical standpoint? (Proverbs 17:17, 18:24, 25:19 27:10)

2. The motivation for the Church is far more than merely being good friends, but loving one another as Christ has loved us, and being unified in purpose to bring glory to His name and sharing the Gospel. What are the motivations for Christians to maintain unity and friendships in the church? (John 13:34-35, 15:13; Ephesians 4:1-6; 1 John 3:11-15)

3. If you feel as if you don't have a brother or a sister in Christ that you can lean on "as closer than a brother," take a moment to write down a prayer below asking for God to provide a friend like that. As well, what are some steps you could take to find those kinds of friends?