



Hand out note cards...

Name a public figure who once had a good name and ruined their reputation...

What did they do?

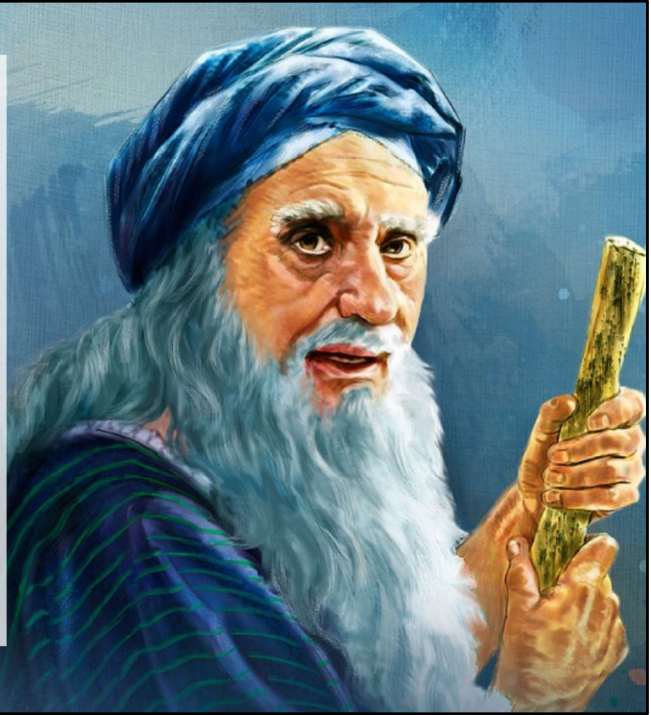
[Examples: Bill Cosby, Jerry Sandusky, several actors/producers from #MeToo, fallen pastors, etc.]

As we've seen over the past couple of weeks, Saul's early success buried, legacy forever shattered by his murderous pursuit of David, stubborn refusal to repent, suicide

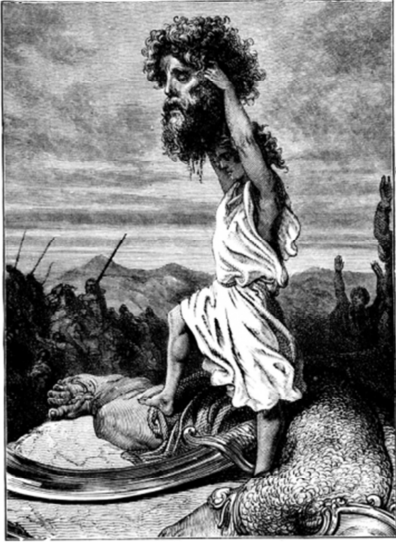
David did ugly things, too, but forever known as "a man after God's own heart."
Why?

“You acted foolishly,” Samuel said.
“You have not kept the command
the LORD your God gave you; if
you had, he would have
established your kingdom over
Israel for all time. But now your
kingdom will not endure; the
LORD has sought out a man after
his own heart and appointed him
leader of his people, because you
have not kept the LORD’s
command.”

- 1 Samuel 13:13-14



Look at text: 1 Sam. 13:13-14—“*read*” (early in reign...)
Only other place: Acts 13, sermon by Paul.
Both comparisons to Saul.



A Man after God's own heart?

- *Pillaged for the Philistines*
- *Took numerous wives*
- *Systematically murdered prisoners of war*
- *Turned a blind eye to the rape of his daughter*

Mistake: reading David's stories and assuming everything he did was good (except Bathsheba) because he was "man after..."

This title was given to him in contrast to Saul, so to emulate David to try to be a man or woman after God's own heart, we have to look at what specific ways he was different from Saul.

DAVID SHOWED TRUE FAITH IN GOD.

*He trusted
God's power*

Trusted God's **power**: David and Goliath

Saul: terrified

Representative battle: god v. God

Have to be sure about your God if the other god is represented by a 9-ft man.

Saul had no confidence



A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was over nine feet tall. He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him.

- 1 Samuel 17:4-7

Both armies saw Goliath as an **invincible** warrior.

"six cubits and a span..."

Cubit: elbow to tip of middle finger

17.5 in. (19.8-20.6 in. "long cubit")

9'6"-11'1" tall

125-lb. coat of armor... 15-lb. spear tip...

Acc. to archaeologist John H. Sailhamer, "weaver's rod" refers to a row of loops that served as a kind of sling that gave the spear greater rotation and distance when thrown...

Shield bearer when in front...

So to even get near Goliath, an Israelite warrior would have get past...

A spear that could break his shield and crush him from a great distance...

A shield bearer who was himself a trained warrior

Then he would face a heavily-armored giant with a reach that was probably close to 50-inches—Goliath's arms were probably close to as long as David's whole body!

So the Philistines were arrogant; the Israelites were "dismayed and terrified."

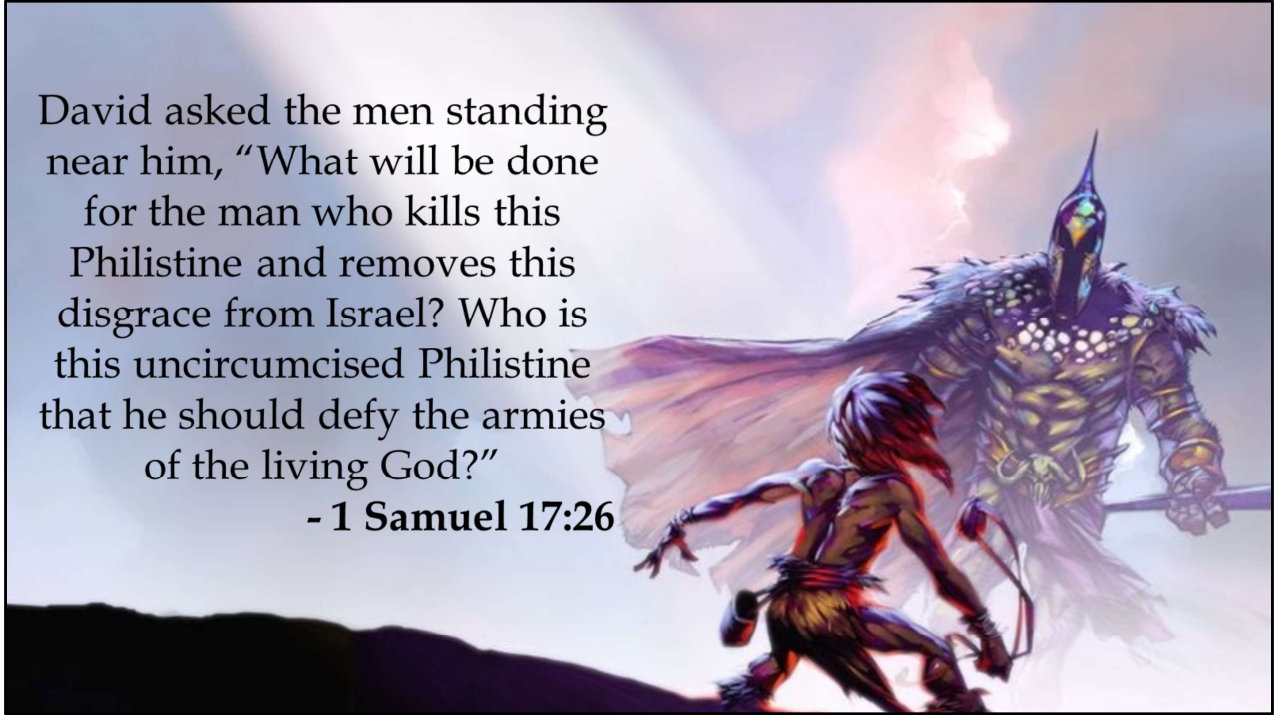
Word in Hebrew for "dismayed" literally means "crushed"—broken to pieces...

Hebrew for "terrified" is two words: "greatly" meaning "with great force and

substance” and “afraid” meaning full of awe... similar to “sore afraid” in NT story of shepherds and angels...
The author is saying they were crushed by the weight of fear...

David asked the men standing near him, “What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?”

- 1 Samuel 17:26



When David arrived on the scene, he had a different perspective; he saw something else entirely: vv. 25-32

David saw a mere **man** opposing the living **God**...

You can hear David here: “*Who is this guy?*”

He compared Goliath to God, not himself...

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

- Hebrews 11:6



Hebrews 11:6—“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.”

God can...

“believe that he exists...”

If God *is*, he *can*...

... and he will

“rewards those that earnestly seek him”

God *will* do great things, because he is God, and David wanted to be right there in the middle of it

Not only trusted God, but had expectations of him... wanted to know his purposes, his ways, his heart, and he wanted to be there when great things happened.

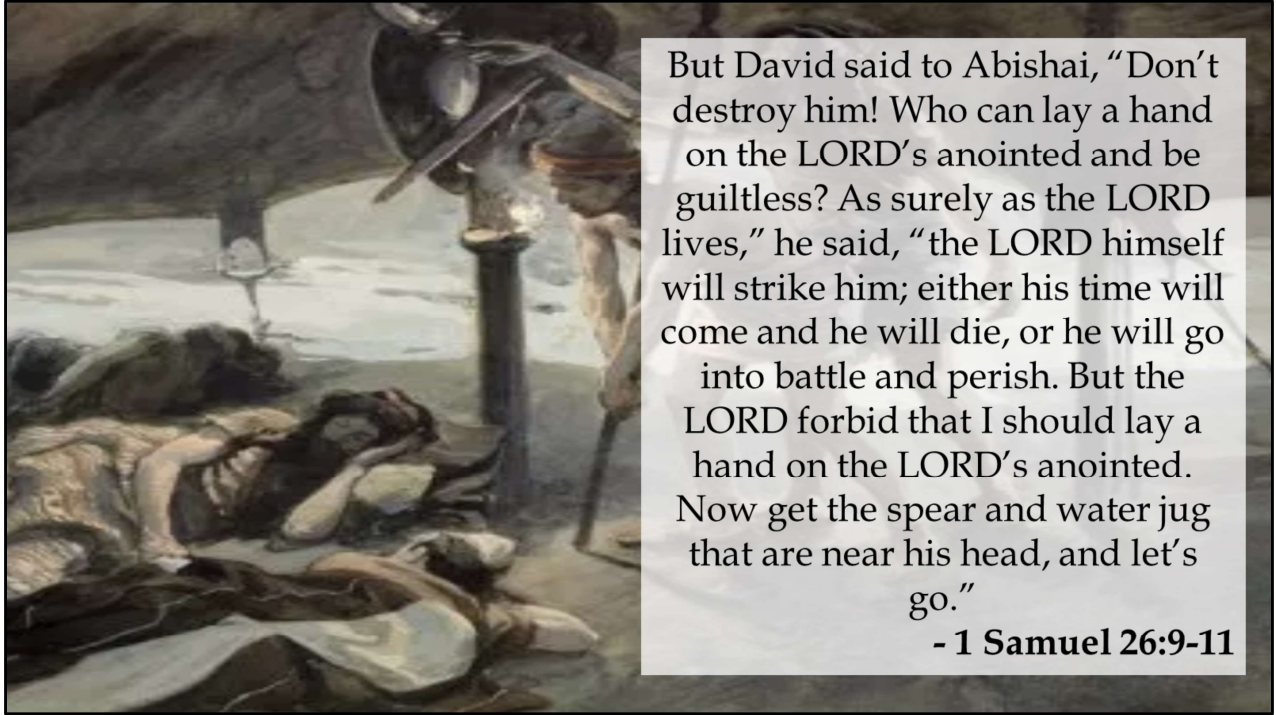
Allowed him to wait to let God do things...



Trusted God's **timing** and **purpose**: Saul's pursuit

"patience" not the best word: Psalms filled with less-than-patient requests for deliverance.

Allowed God to do it... even when everyone else said it was the Lord who delivered Saul into his hands.



But David said to Abishai, "Don't destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the LORD's anointed and be guiltless? As surely as the LORD lives," he said, "the LORD himself will strike him; either his time will come and he will die, or he will go into battle and perish. But the LORD forbid that I should lay a hand on the LORD's anointed. Now get the spear and water jug that are near his head, and let's go."

- 1 Samuel 26:9-11

1 Samuel 26:9-11—"read"

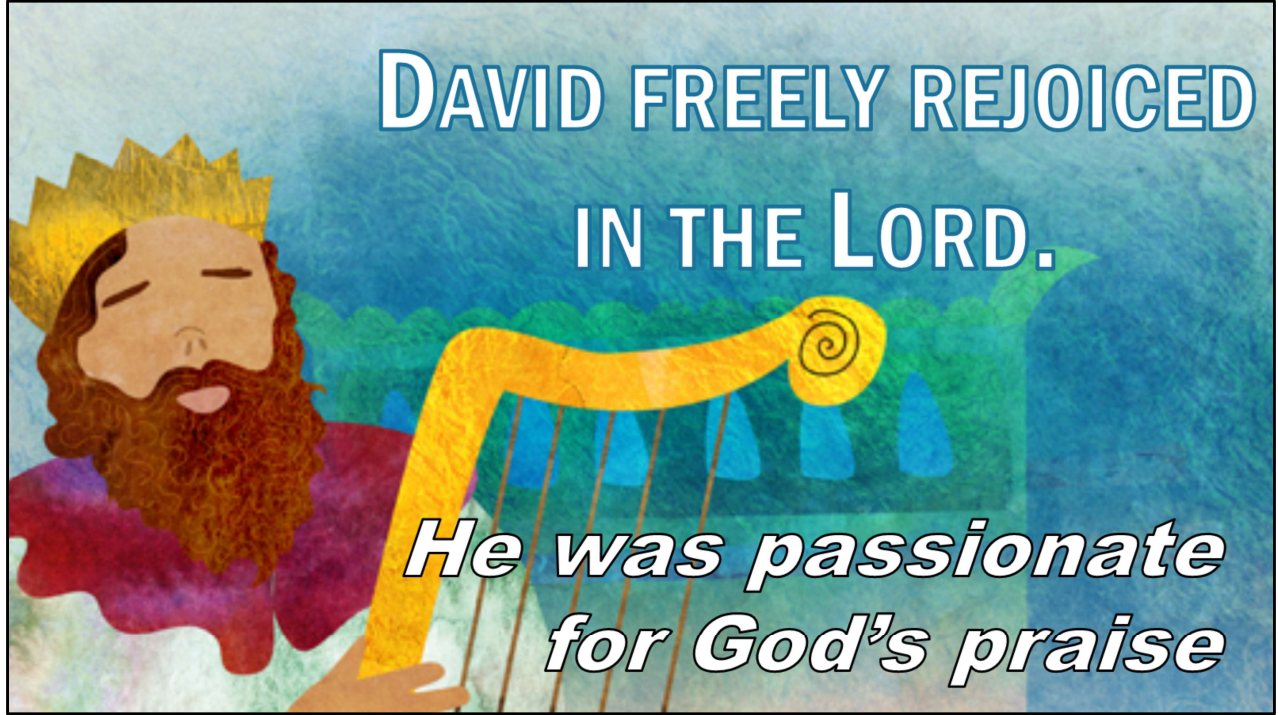
"God can and HE will..."

Have God's purpose and run with it...

Wear out trying to accomplish what God can do...

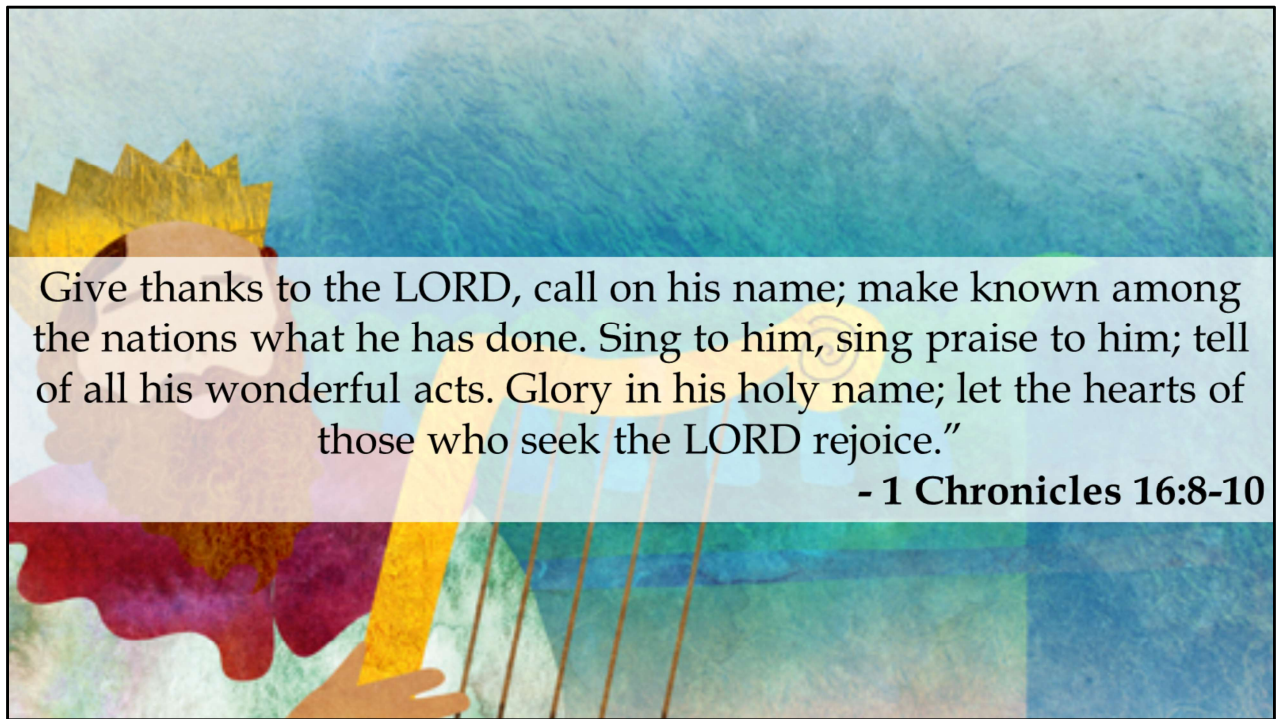
David: cried out again and again in the Psalms... wanted it with all of his soul... but still was willing to let God do it and not take matters into his own hands.

God did eventually give David victory... victory after victory, and when he did, David...



Freely rejoiced in the Lord

Passionate for God's praise



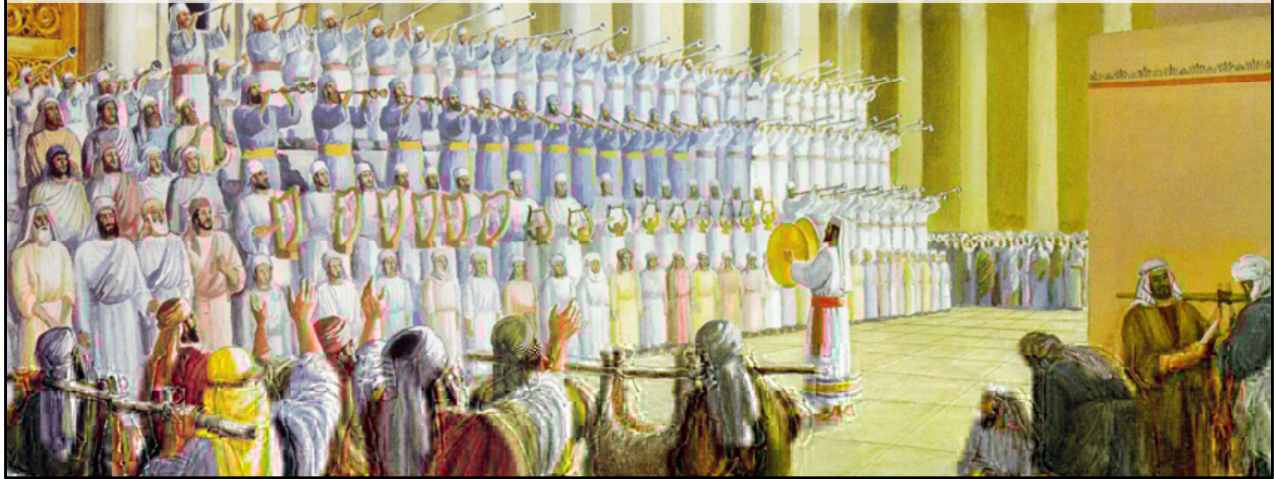
Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.”

- 1 Chronicles 16:8-10

1 Chron. 16:8-10—“Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.”

David, together with the commanders of the army, set apart some of the sons of Asaph, Heman and Jeduthun for the ministry of prophesying, accompanied by harps, lyres and cymbals.”

- 1 Chronicles 25:1



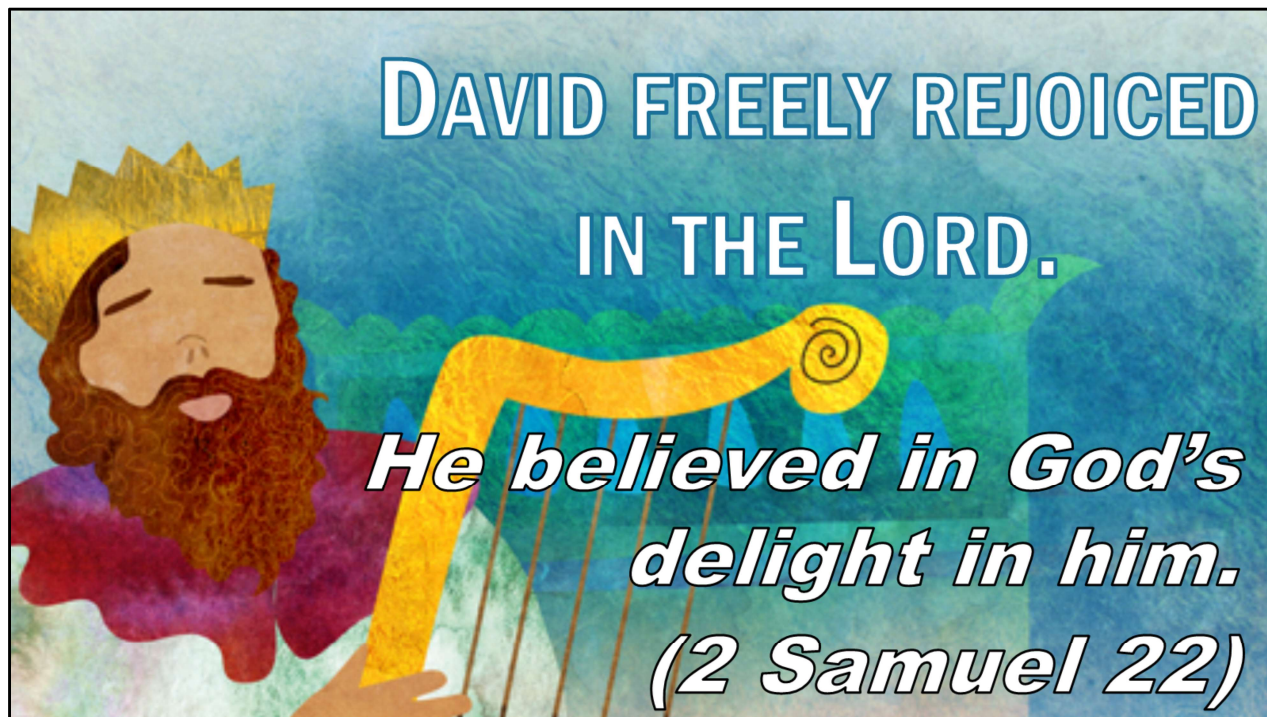
Enlisted a ‘praise team’: 1 Chron. 25:1—“David, together with the commanders of the army, set apart some of the sons of Asaph, Heman and Jeduthun for the ministry of prophesying, accompanied by harps, lyres and cymbals”

Real praise comes from the heart, from real knowledge and a relationship

Both spontaneous and a discipline... have to ready your heart, draw close to God... make sure you participate

Can't really say you're someone after God's heart if your heart is not stirred by him...

Also need to know God's heart for you...



David believed in God's delight in him

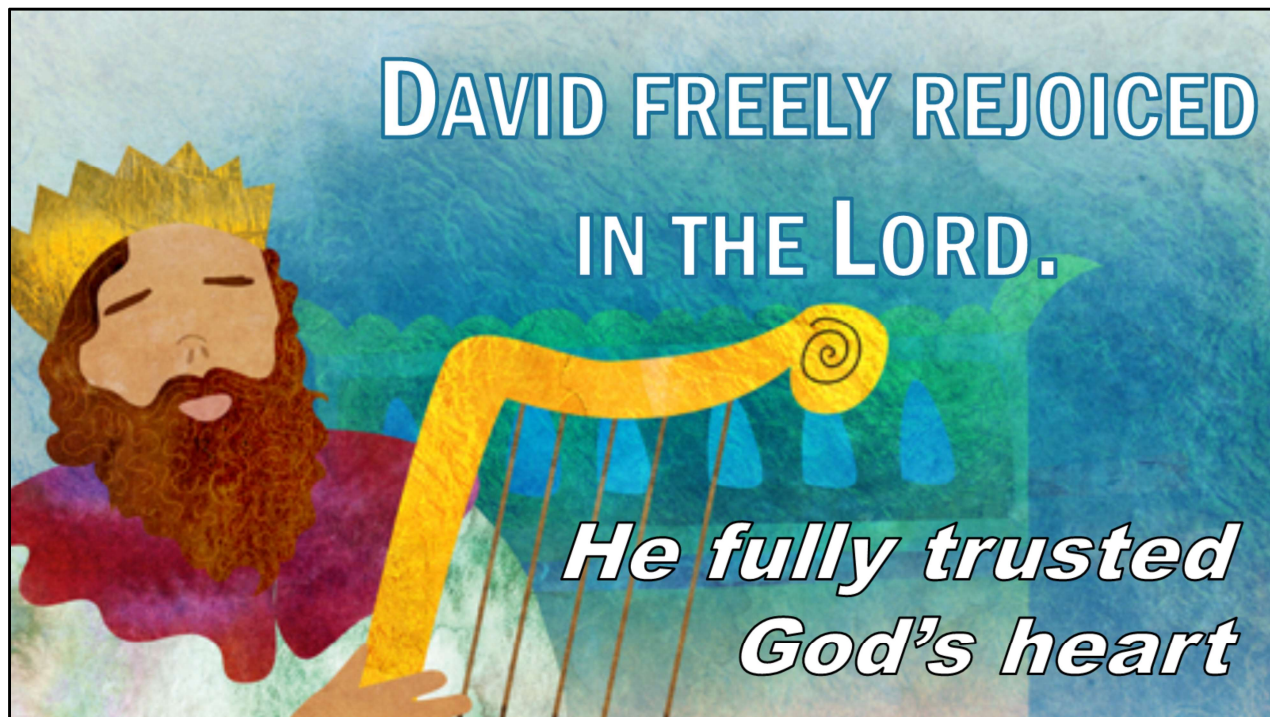
2 Samuel 22:7-20—"In my distress I called to the LORD; I called out to my God. From his temple he heard my voice; my cry came to his ears. The earth trembled and quaked, the foundations of the heavens shook; they trembled because he was angry. Smoke rose from his nostrils; consuming fire came from his mouth, burning coals blazed out of it. He parted the heavens and came down; dark clouds were under his feet. He mounted the cherubim and flew; he soared on the wings of the wind... He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters. He rescued me from my powerful enemy, from my foes, who were too strong for me. They confronted me in the day of my disaster, but the LORD was my support. He brought me out into a spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted in me."

How many of you have ever had a hard time believing in God's love for you, specifically?

I have... even more struggle with his *delight* in me... still have a hard time with it...

God can → and He will → for *me*! In my life!

*****Say it to one another: God can... and he will... for me... in my life!*****



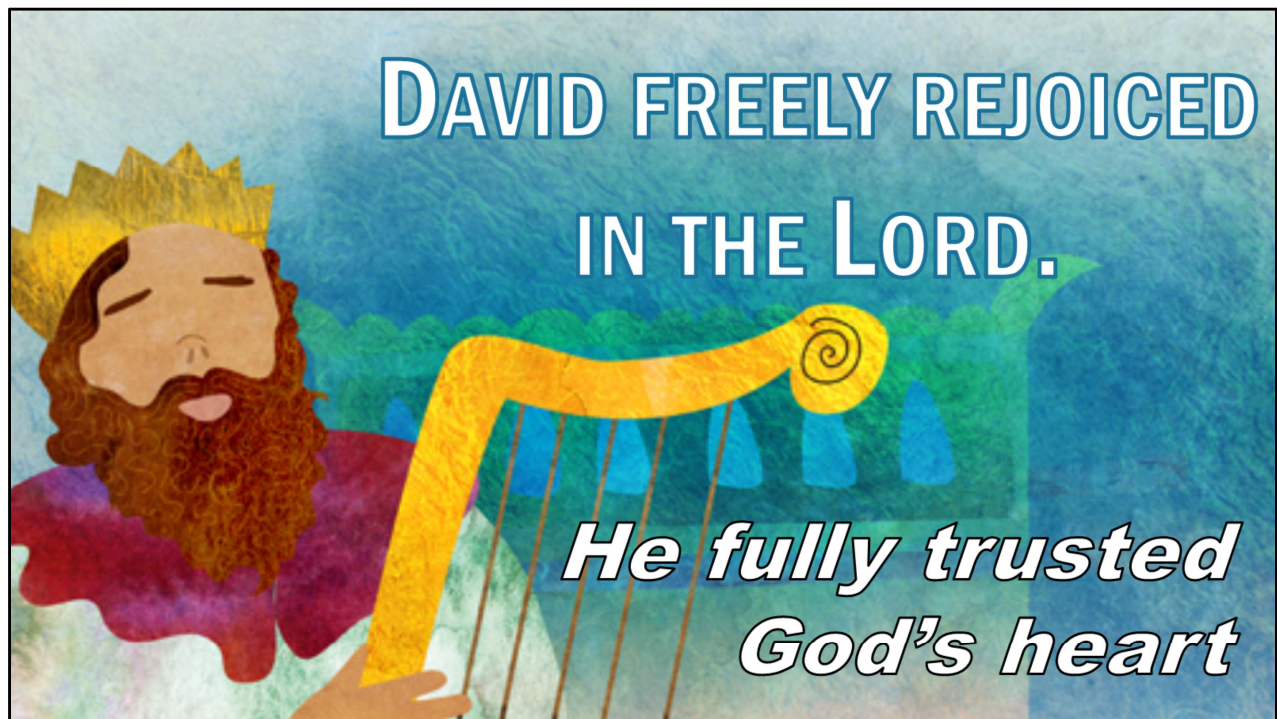
Fully trusted God's heart

Contrast to Saul

Saul: 1 Samuel 14:24—*“Now the men of Israel were in distress that day, because Saul had bound the people under an oath, saying, “Cursed be any man who eats food before evening comes, before I have avenged myself on my enemies!” So none of the troops tasted food.”*

Jonathan ate honey anyway, soldiers freak out

Jonathan: vv. 39-30—*“Jonathan said, “My father has made trouble for the country. See how my eyes brightened when I tasted a little of this honey. How much better it would have been if the men had eaten today some of the plunder they took from their enemies. Would not the slaughter of the Philistines have been even greater?”*



David on the run

Ate consecrated bread (broke the law)

Jesus: Mark 2:25-27—“He answered, ‘Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? 26 In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.’ Then he said to them, ‘The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.’”

Saul thought of God as harsh, so his religion was harsh... confused God with a man, so was concerned with “shows” of religion

David, on some level, understood what Jesus would later teach: “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath” ... God gave us his laws to help us, not to weigh us down...

This full trust in the heart of God makes it easier to...



Genuinely repented from the heart

Psalm 51—background (get into this more next week)



**What does
heart
repentance
look like?**

What does heart repentance look like?



Acknowledge the severity and spiritual nature of the sin

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

- Ps 51:1-5

Psalm 51:1-5—*“read”*

Sin is a burden: *“my sin is always before me”*

Sin is against God: *“against you, and you only, have I sinned.”*

Doesn't take away from hurt you cause others

Biggest pass we give: not hurting anyone

God is the victim when we sin

Pervasiveness of sin: *“surely I was sinful at birth...”*

Easy to say *“this is out of character”*

We are habitual sinners



Appeal to God's ability to restore

Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

- Ps 51:6-7

Appeal to God's ability to restore

God is doing a work in you: v. 6—"read"

Expects better

Only know better because of God's grace

He can really get you clean: v. 7—"read"

Sometimes put off by David's 'self-promotion' in some of the Psalms

He knows... he's really clean!



Appeal to God's ability to restore

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

- Ps 51:8-12

Ask for restoration: vv. 8-12—“read”

Desire true change that is God's work

“create in me... restore to me... grant me...”



Turn a new direction

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you. Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

- Ps 51:13-15

Turn a new **direction**

Psalm 51:13-15—“*read*”

Rather than break your law, I will teach it, show others the path to restoration...

God can turn your evil into good...

Rather than defame your name by my actions, I will praise you with my words and life...



**Acknowledge that there is nothing
that can earn forgiveness**

*You do not delight in sacrifice, or
I would bring it; you do not take
pleasure in burnt offerings. The
sacrifices of God are a broken
spirit; a broken and contrite
heart, O God, you will not
despise.*

- Ps 51:16-17

Acknowledge there is nothing that can earn forgiveness

Even this great confession is not enough...

Religion is not enough: Psalm 51:16-17—“*read*”

Even here, David acknowledges that God sees his heart...
He trusts God will accept true contrition...



True worship is restored

In your good pleasure make Zion prosper; build up the walls of Jerusalem. Then there will be righteous sacrifices, whole burnt offerings to delight you; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

- Ps 51:18-19

True worship is restored

Psalm 51:18-19—“read”

Can't have true worship if we're holding back sin...

Challenge for This Week

- Write down a challenge you face. Write down how God has been faithful in the past that help you trust God with this situation.
- Check your heart during times of worship. Seek to praise him passionately.
- Pray through Psalm 51.

Write down a challenge you face. Write down how God has been faithful in the past that help you trust God with this situation.

Check your heart during times of worship. Seek to praise him passionately.

If you have found yourself unpassionate in worship, ask God why. It may be you need to repent before true worship can be restored...

Pray through Psalm 51.