

When In Affliction, Remember...

1 Samuel 21

The lessons learned by David

1. Do Not Fear - Psalm 34:4-7; 56 vs. 1-4

Although David's response displayed fear, he learned from this experience that if he trusted God, God removes the fear and replaces it with confidence.

Questions:

- a. How does the world tell us that we should respond to trouble, or when we experience a low point in our life?
- b. "Fear is the unpleasant emotion of dread, fright, panic, worry or terror caused by the presence of evil or danger threatening you or the ones you love. Fear can also be aroused by an anticipation of what might happen (fear of the unknown) to you or your loved ones. This kind of fear often expresses itself in worry or anxiety." From what you learned from David, what will you do the next time you are afraid or in a difficult situation?
- c. Is it possible to be delivered from fear and not your circumstances? Explain.

2. Driven by Security - Psalm 34:8-22; 56:5-13

David learned that his decisions and actions should be driven by his security found in God. God hears his pleas and will respond.

Questions:

- a. How does knowing who God is and knowing His Word (the Bible) motivate us to face affliction with confidence?
- b. What step of faith could you take today to demonstrate your trust in God?

3. Determination to Act – Psalm 34:1-3

David learned that our focus should be to bless God at all times; to participate in the blessing of God through aligning himself with the purpose and plans of God.

Questions:

- a. What does a life look like when it is aligned to God's purposes and plans?
- b. What do you think is the value of praising God with someone? (Psalm 34:3)
- c. David recorded the lessons he learned from his afflictions. What lessons have you learned from experiencing difficult times in the past?