OVERCOMING DISCOURAGEMENT

“Z:”And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.” I Samuel 30:6

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**LET’S LOOK AT THE THINGS THAT DAVID DID WHEN HE WAS IN A LOW PLACE AND IN A SIGNIFICANT PLACE OF DISCOURAGEMENT!**

1. **Don’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!**

* 1Jn 4:18  There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.
* Rom 8:38-39  For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
* 2Co 10:5  Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;
* Jos 1:9  Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God *is* with thee whithersoever thou goest.

* Phil. 4:6-8 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is healthy.**

* Psa 56:8-9 Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: *are they* not in thy book? When I cry *unto thee,* then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God *is* for me.

1. **When things get even \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_call on God and get \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!**

* 1Sa 30:6-8  And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God. And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod. And Abiathar brought thither the ephod to David. And David enquired at the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them?

***HE TURNED HIS FOCUS OFF OF WHAT WAS WRONG AND PUT HIS EYES ON THE ONE WHO IS ALWAYS RIGHT!***

1. **Get \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God!**

* And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake *them,* and without fail recover *all.* **1Sa 30:9**  So David went,

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_the danger of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

* 1Sa 30:9-10  So David went, he and the six hundred men that *were* with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed. But David pursued, he and four hundred men

Here are some reasons why we isolate ourselves.

* Ego-“ I don’t want anyone to know I’m struggling.”
* Blind Spot –“I’m not struggling.”
* Deception-“This struggle will go away on its own”
* Pride-“I can handle this struggle myself”
* Fear-“What might someone say to me about my struggle?”
* Independence-“I don’t want to bother anyone with my struggle.”

1. **Help \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Else!**

1Sa 30:11-12  And they found an Egyptian in the field, and brought him to David, and gave him bread, and he did eat; and they made him drink water; And they gave him a piece of a cake of figs, and two clusters of raisins: and when he had eaten, his spirit came again to him: for he had eaten no bread, nor drunk *any* water, three days and three nights.

1. **When the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ comes you are going to have to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!**

The Egyptian led him to the enemy but David still had to fight to get his stuff back!!!

1. **Continue to do What is Right!**

* 1Sa 30:18-24  And David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away: and David rescued his two wives. 1Sa 30:19  And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any *thing* that they had taken to them: David recovered all. 1Sa 30:20  And David took all the flocks and the herds, *which* they drave before those *other* cattle, and said, This *is* David's spoil. 1Sa 30:21  And David came to the two hundred men, which were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to abide at the brook Besor: and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the people that *were* with him: and when David came near to the people, he saluted them. 1Sa 30:22  Then answered all the wicked men and *men* of Belial, of those that went with David, and said, Because they went not with us, we will not give them *ought* of the spoil that we have recovered, save to every man his wife and his children, that they may lead *them* away, and depart. 1Sa 30:23  Then said David, Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which the LORD hath given us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand. 1Sa 30:24  For who will hearken unto you in this matter? but as his part *is* that goeth down to the battle, so *shall* his part *be* that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike.

1. **Share the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

I Sa 30:26  And when David came to Ziklag, he sent of the spoil unto the elders of Judah, *even* to his friends, saying, Behold a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of the LORD;