

**LeMay Family Bible Study**  
**For the purpose of furthering**  
**Biblical Knowledge**  
**September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Title: A man after God's own heart**

**Text: Psalm: 40: 1-3**

**1 I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry.**

**2 He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.**

**3 He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him.**

**Ref: 1 Samuel 26: 9-11. "Touch not my anointed."**

**Theme: Who can know the mind of God?**

**Message:**

I know why I'm heading to the south side tonight. This is all my fault. I know why I'm not with the woman that I married; the woman that I love right now. But David could not have understood all that was going on, when he was on the run from his father-in-law, Saul. None of it was his fault.

We see David on the run for his life being pursued by the man that he had consoled in his anxiety and pain, being in exile and separated from all that he'd been anointed for. What would have gone through David's mind during those years? How was he able to manage the period of time that he was separated from his kingdom and from the life that he was destined to walk into?

After all, he'd been anointed by the prophet Samuel to be king. Now, he's asking himself and God, what the hell is going on? In Psalm 40 David reflects on how the process of waiting wasn't in vain for him. But it was rather a time of consecration and development for him to learn the things that God wanted him to learn, before he ascended to the throne. David conveys in the Psalms through this season of his life that he felt that God was silent towards him.

### **But how do we sing in a strange land?**

David echoes this sentiment throughout the Psalms, he then later recounts how it felt to manage his emotions, his lack of faith and the pain that he felt from being separated from God. But David was also able to use the time of separation to fortify a relationship with God that was unprecedented in his life before. He says in Psalm 40 that he developed a new song of praise. This statement is analogous to how he'd grown in multifaceted ways.

The situation that was allowed by God was created to facilitate the kind of consecration and the dependency on the word of God, that he'd never have attained had he not been afforded the opportunity to experience this specific kind of valley; the valley of separation and alienation. Now David was forced to learn how to totally depend on God and to fully trust in his promises for him and for where his life was headed and where it would end up.

One of the key aspects of the internal reformation and growth that David displays is referenced in 1 Samuel 26, where David encounters Saul asleep and he has been in hot pursuit of him and his army. David has the chance to kill Saul, but he shows his mercy and his respect for the man of God, who was anointed by the prophet to be King. Despite his current position and pain, David respects that this is the man and also the property of God and that God is the only one who is entitled to kill him.

### **Who can know the mind of GOD?**

David doesn't know the intentions of God for Saul, nor does he understand why God chose him to be King. All David knows is that he must go through the season, admirably and honorably. So, rather than respond primarily, he takes the high road and allows God to show his presence in his life and in his heart. David has moved beyond the man that he was before the separation; he's become the man after God's own heart, that God refers to him as.

### **Questions:**

- 1) How is that David is referred to as the man after God's own heart, when he was a rapist, a murderer, a liar, full of ego and pride?

- 2) Have you ever felt like your life was in a holding pattern?
- 3) What did you do, when you felt like your life was in a holding pattern?
- 4) What did you learn when you felt like you were out of the holding pattern?
- 5) What do you do if you can't hear God's voice?
- 6) What is the difference between a test, a trial and or tribulation?
- 7) What do you learn from a test?
- 8) If you know that it's a test that you're in, how do you know that you've passed it?
- 9) If you know that it's a test that you're in, how do you know that you've failed it?
- 10) What do you learn from a trial?
- 11) What do you learn from tribulation?
- 12) Is tribulation your fault?
- 13) What does David mean when he says, "how do we sing in a strange land?"
- 14) What does David mean when he says that he developed a new song of praise?
- 15) Did you feel as though God was testing you for his purposes or for yours?
- 16) Did you ever feel like giving up on God?
- 17) How is it possible that God could use David to be the forerunner of Jesus, who never sinned?
- 18) Does God use broken, flawed people to do his will?
- 19) Could God have simply chosen someone else other than David?
- 20) Why does God put broken people together in marriage, relationships?
- 21) What does God not despise?
- 22) Who has the last word in a Christian marriage?
- 23) Is there anything too hard for God?
- 24) Did you ever have to wait on the Lord this week?
- 25) Have you ever had to wait on the Lord until you felt as though there was a work that needed to be done, was completed?
- 26) What has God revealed to you this week about the benefits of waiting on him?
- 27) What kind of things do you think that David would have said to himself, in the midnight hours, in pain?
- 28) What kind of meditations do you think that David would have had as go to meditations and prayers, to get him through the separation?
- 29) What about David's conduct, during the separation? What would have been important that he did, while he was in exile?
- 30) What performance do you think that God would've wanted from David, while he was in exile?
- 31) What truth can we see in David's observance and respect of God's anointed?
- 32) How is it that David could exercise such restraint and not kill Saul, yet later commit murder, rape, etc.?
- 33) Did you think that David's circumstances while he was on the run from Saul, were his fault?
- 34) Do you think that God was using David's exile as punishment for his future transgressions?

- 35) If God knew that David would become a murderer, rapist, etc., why would he allow him, use him to lead his chosen people?
- 36) Do you think it would have been important for David to be honest with himself and with God, during his exile?
- 37) Why would God use anyone who is anything like David to lead his people?
- 38) If David learned so much during his time in exile, why do you think that he committed murder, rape, adultery, etc., later in his life and after living in comfort and opulence?
- 39) Later, when David was king and he had his stolen wife's husband murdered, what did he do, once he was called out by the prophet Nathan?
- 40) What is the work that God needs to do in you, right now? 41) How long do you think it will take for that work to be done in you?
- 42) Have you ever ignored your child, children in an effort to show them how displeased you were with them?
- 43) Have you ever ignored your husband, in an effort to show them how displeased you were with them?
- 44) Was God ignoring David, or was he teaching him how to wait on him?
- 45) Did God ignore Jesus on the cross?
- 46) How can we say that David learned from the season of separation from God?
- 47) How can we validate that he did learn what he was supposed to, given his behavior after becoming King?
- 48) How many times do you believe that God has forgiven you in your life?
- 49) How many times do you believe that God will forgive you in the future?
- 50) Do you think that you will ever learn how to truly have a heart after God?
- 51) What does the bible say about striving for perfection?
- 52) Who was perfect?
- 53) If we are like God, then why do we act the polar opposite of how God does, sometimes?
- 54) Can God use us even though we act the polar opposite of how does?