

Pursuing through PAIN

1 Samuel 19.9-12

1Sa 19:9 Now there was an evil spirit from the LORD on Saul as he was sitting in his house with his spear in his hand, and David was playing the harp with his hand. 10 Saul tried to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, so that he stuck the spear into the wall. And David fled and escaped that night. 11 Then Saul sent messengers to David's house to watch him, in order to put him to death in the morning. But Michal, David's wife, told him, saying, "If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be put to death." 12 So Michal let David down through a window, and he went out and fled and escaped.

David, like Joseph, received a divine assignment as a teenager. After Samuel anoints him to be king, his life would go from one painful challenge to the next. He would learn to pursue God and God's plan.

He would discover that God does not forsake you even when you're in the desert running from the king.

Ps 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. 3 He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

1. God called David in the Pain of Loneliness

- David was not initially invited to meet with Samuel

David's experience helps us look biblically at racist practices like Gentrification

- David was likely viewed as unqualified

Displacement is often a sign of potential to succeed!

1 Samuel 19:11

Then Saul sent messengers to David's house to watch him, in order to put him to death in the morning. But Michal, David's wife, told him, saying, "If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be put to death." 12 So Michal let David down through a window, and he went out and fled and escaped.

- PAIN never Camouflages You from God

Ge 40:21 He restored the chief cupbearer to his office, and he put the cup into Pharaoh's hand; 22 but he hanged the chief baker, just as Joseph had interpreted to them. 23 Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.

2. David Responded in Faith Toward God not Doubt in Self

- David would have been Considered Unqualified

Est 3:8 Then Haman said to King Ahasuerus, "There is a certain people scattered and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom; their laws are different from those of all other people and they do not observe the king's laws, so it is not in the king's interest to let them remain. 9 "If it is pleasing to the king, let it be decreed that they be destroyed, and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those who carry on the king's business, to put into the king's treasuries."

- David Refused to See Himself as Unqualified

Jdg 6:15 He said to Him, "O Lord, how shall I deliver Israel? Behold, my family is the least in Manasseh, and I am the youngest in my father's house." 16 But the LORD said to him, "Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat Midian as one man." 17 So Gideon said to Him, "If now I have found favor in Your sight, then show me a sign that it is You who speak with me.

- David's Confidence was in God

Pr 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and turn away from evil.

3. David Harnessed Pain thru Worship and Moved toward Destiny

1Sa 17:17 Then Jesse said to David his son, "Take now for your brothers an ephah of this roasted grain and these ten loaves and run to the camp to your brothers. 18Bring also these ten cuts of cheese to the commander of their thousand, and look into the welfare of your brothers, and bring back news of them. 19For Saul and they and all the men of Israel are in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines."

This would have angered me right after I was selected to be king!

But there were things He knew about His God

- **The Lord is My Shepherd**

- **The Lord is My Protector**

- **The Lord is My Victory**

Ps 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. 3 He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and loving kindness will follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Communion Exhortation

Passover was God's response to a nation in the pain of slavery. Communion, the New Testament equivalent, brings hope to a people who remain enslaved. Spiritually, mentally and economically but yet there is hope in the Blood

Nothing but the Blood

The source of help and hope for the nation is in the Blood. Blood that's been made available, It springs up in Zion like a fountain and flows to whomever would by faith reach in. There is hope and healing and power to change. In this blood filled fountain

There is a Fountain

Change will not come when you linger on the outskirts of Sunday morning church attendance. Our communities will not change if church is just something you do after you club and drink all night on Saturday.

You must allow Him to Draw You Nearer.

Draw Me Nearer