

We Are Glad *You* Are Here

Sunday, April 21, 2024

sermon: Growing in God's Grace - 1 Samuel 25:1-44

Big Idea: Spiritual transformation means a commitment to growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

I. Temperance (vv. 12-13)

A. Temperance can be defined as moderation and self-restraint. David has shown this before (chap. 24) and will again (chap. 26), but here he gives into his anger with little thought of the consequences and without first consulting the Lord. Mercifully, God stopped David before he could do permanent harm.

B. Spiritual growth in this instance means growing in:

1. Patience (long-suffering, cf. Col. 1:9-11).
2. Self-control (the ability to show restraint) – as a culture we struggle with this attribute.
3. Perspective – Seeing the bigger picture of God's purpose.

II. Teachability (vv. 27-33)

A. One's receptivity of feedback is a key indicator of maturity (cf. Ps. 141:4-5). Abigail takes a risk in confronting David, but she uses wisdom and diplomacy. Her approach helps in that she:

1. Seeks to make the situation right (she brings food).
2. Seeks forgiveness for Nabal's foolishness.
3. Reminds David of the consequences of rash action.
4. Reminds David to leave vengeance in God's hands (v. 26; cf. Rom. 12:17-21).

B. Spiritual growth in this instance means growing in:

1. Humility – Not thinking too highly of oneself.
2. Recognizing and submitting to the truth.

III. Total Dependence (v. 34)

A. David is human and apart from the work of the Spirit in his life, he, too, can be as prone to foolish behavior as the next person. Spiritual growth in this instance means recognizing our dependence on God and our need to:

1. Surrender to God's Word.
2. Seeking the fruit of the Spirit (cf. Gal. 5:22-24).
3. Walking in obedience to what we know is true.

COME AS YOU ARE, BECOME WHO GOD HAS MEANT YOU TO BE.