



“How to Handle Failure”

1 Samuel 30

SERMON NOTES

Record your insights and observations from this week’s sermon:



KNOWING GOD

- a) Read 1 Samuel 27:1-6, 28:1-2, 29:1-11, 30:1-6.

- b) Why did David once again flee from King Saul into Philistine territory? (1 Sam. 27:1; cf. 21:10-15)

- c) How did David secretly use his time in Ziklag to benefit his people? What do you suppose was his ultimate goal? (1 Sam. 27:8-12)

- d) While David’s plot to sabotage the Philistines was unraveling, what tragically took place back at Ziklag? (1 Sam. 30:1-5)

- e) What does 1 Sam. 30:6 reveal about human nature? What does it reveal about God’s nature?



GROWING TOGETHER

a) Describe a time when, despite your best intentions, your decision or action brought trouble and heartache into your life and perhaps that of others.

b) During that episode of your life, did you find strength in God? If so, how? If not, what do you think was missing?

c) Read Psalm 27. Assuming this is one of David’s psalms, what can you tell helped David find strength in God?

d) What do you learn from 1 Sam. 30:9-10 that is relevant to church life?



SERVING OTHERS

a) Read 1 Sam. 30:21-31. How did David show grace following his victory over the Amalekites? How did his attitude differ from that of some of his fighting men? Can you identify with the “evil men and troublemakers” in vs. 22?

b) In what specific areas do you think UPC needs to become more of a “safe place” for people who have experienced failure and loss?

c) You may be feeling on top of the mountain these days. But chances are, someone you know is walking through a “valley of humiliation.” How can you help that person find strength in God?
