

Moving Forward with Our Family

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Text: 1 Sam. 30:1-19

Introduction:

A. David was absent from his family

Types of "absence" in family relationship:

1. **Physical** absence (1 Sam. 27:1-8; 28:1-2)
2. **Relational** absence (1 Sam. 27:1-8; 28:1-2)
3. Physical **presence** but relationally **absent**

Result:

Application:

B. David became present to his family

Actions David took to recover his family:

1. **Decision** - David decided to be present to his family (1 Sam. 29:11; 30:1)
2. **Realization** - David had a full understanding of what happened (1 Sam. 30:1-4)
3. **Contrition** - David responded humbly to what happened (1 Sam. 30:3-5)
4. **Consultation** - David 'inquired of the Lord' (1 Sam. 30:7-8)
5. **Determination** - David pursued the enemy relentlessly (1 Sam. 30: 9-17)

Result: 1 Sam. 30:18-19

Application:

Conclusion:

Table Talk

A. Welcome

Travel activities sharply increase during the holidays (Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year). From your observation or your personal experience, what do you think is the main reason or your primary reason for traveling during these holidays?

B. Sharing of the Word

1. In your opinion, which is more disappointing or damaging of the 3: a family member who is physically absent, relationally absent, or a family member who is physically present but relationally absent. Explain.

2. Read 1 Samuel 27:1-6. Was David's absence justified in this case?

3. In 1 Samuel 30:1-5, David and his men paid a dear price for being absent and disengaged from their spouses and families. In modern America, what are the serious consequences for being physically or relationally absent from our spouse, family or parents?

4. What is the encouraging news about this heartbreak story about marital and family relationship in 1 Samuel 30:6-8, 18?

5. David and his men took practical steps to recover their families. Share with your group which of these steps you need to take to improve your marital and family relationships or recover your family for that matter. Please refer to your sermon outline.

C. Close the meeting by praying for each other.