

BFF309 David

**Scott Moore:** Welcome to the "Building Faith Families" podcast with Steve Demme. I'm your host, Scott Moore. Thanks for joining us today. Good morning, Steve. How are you today?

**Steve:** I'm improving. It is two weeks tonight when I first experienced a COVID-19 symptom. It really was a strange experience though for two reasons. For those that have had this COVID stuff, I had to be quarantined for 10 days. I didn't go out, I didn't see people. There's a part of me that enjoys being alone with God's presence but when my brain was all foggy, it wasn't a profitable 10 days, for I had trouble focusing. Also I was isolated. I like people, I missed people. It was only 10 days. In the process, the dog ate one of my hearing aids which just made me more isolated. For those of you that are out there that are getting a little bit elderly, don't wait for hearing aids by the way. You need to go to COSCO and get your free hearing test, at least have a baseline. Not having a hearing aid made me even more isolated. Even when I was around my family, I wasn't hearing everything. It was a very strange, isolating experience.

Yesterday, I had a pretty normal day and today, I'm up and showered. I'm in the word again. I feel like I'm back on the mend.

**Scott:** Welcome back.

**Steve:** For those that are going through it, it's no fun.

Let's pray.

"Father, thank you for health, and thank you for renewed hope and vigor. Thank you for being with me, even when I couldn't sense it very much. Thank you that You are always with us. Nothing can separate us from Your love. We're glad to draw near to You this morning. Pray for Your thoughts and Your spirit, to not only teach us from Your word, but in life in it and quicken into us in Jesus name. Amen."

**Scott:** Amen.

**Steve:** All right. Here's what we're going to do. We're going to take just a little breather from the tabernacle to talk about two men that have significantly impacted my life. Moses and David. When my brother and I were new in our faith, and we came home, and our folks invited us to their Bible study. We were in a small group and one of the questions was, "If you could go back in time, who would you like to meet?" Or you could phrase it, "If you go to heaven who are you looking forward to meeting in heaven besides Jesus?" Interestingly, both of us said, "Moses, David."

I think it's because we were both reading through the Bible. When you read through the whole Bible, there's a whole bunch of scriptures where these two men appear, especially in the Old Testament.

Now, hold that thought. This is my 10-year anniversary coming up in April of what I call Crisis to Christ, the hardest and best year of my life.

That journey began when I was speaking about Deuteronomy 6:7, "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

When the workshop was over a mom came up and asked "Why do you always leave out the previous verses?" I said, "I don't know."

I went back and I read verses 4, 5, and 6, "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart."

I thought, "Wow. Before I can teach my kids to love God and His Word, I need to love God and His Word." As a result I began seeking God, and asking Him to help me to love Him with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength. I remembered that there was a church in the Book of Revelation, the church in Ephesus, which had lost their first love.

They were still Christians, still believers, but they'd lost that fire. They'd lost something and God pointed it out, so I wanted to make sure that I was loving God with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength. God answered that prayer, but not how I expected.

This journey in 2012 began with the writings of Moses in the Book of Deuteronomy. Then, throughout that year and the next year, God pushed me into scripture. I needed God's word. I needed His thoughts. I needed to know what He was thinking. I found myself reading in John and John 15:9 changed my life, "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love."

Then in 2014 I waited on God for the first time on a mountain in the Poconos. It was another breakthrough event where I began to spend time with God Himself. I continued that when I came home from the mountains by walking through my neighborhood. Then in 2018, God opened up Psalm 100, which was written by David. Psalm 100 continues to reverberate in my heart. I continue to apply the principles of making a joyful noise unto the Lord, coming into His presence with singing, entering His gates with thanksgiving, and then praising His name.

It was the Pentateuch that started my journey. It was Psalm 100 that took it deeper. That's why these two men are so significant in my life, so I'm going to put Moses on hold for a little bit. I'm going to talk about David today because there's one verse that has been going through my heart for two weeks now.

If you ask the average person, "Where did David first appear in the Bible?" Most of the people would say, "David and Goliath," and they're off. Should I put you on the spot? Where did David first appear in the Bible?

**Steve:** Saul had dropped the ball. Samuel was told by God, "How long are you going to mourn for Saul? I have somebody else." He went to the house of Jesse. We know the account because there's all these big good looking guys.

"Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are these all the children?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, and behold, he is tending the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with beautiful eyes and a handsome appearance. And Jehovah said, 'Arise, anoint him; for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of Jehovah came mightily upon David from that day forward. And Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

Now the Spirit of Jehovah departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from Jehovah terrorized him. Saul's servants then said to him, "Behold now, an evil spirit from God is terrorizing you. 'Let our lord now command your servants who are before you. Let them seek a man who is a skillful player on the harp; and it shall come about when the evil spirit from God is on you, that he shall play the harp with his hand, and you will be well.' So Saul said to his servants, 'Provide for me now a man who can play well and bring him to me.' Then one of the young men said, 'Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who is a skillful musician, a mighty man of valor, a warrior, one prudent in speech, and a handsome man; and Jehovah is with him.' So Saul sent messengers to Jesse and said, 'Send me your son David who is with the flock.' Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread and a jug of wine and a young goat, and sent them to Saul by David his son. Then David came to Saul and attended him; and Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armor bearer. Saul sent to Jesse, saying, 'Let David now stand before me, for he has found favor in my sight.' So it came about whenever the evil spirit from God came to Saul, David would take the harp and play it with his hand; and Saul would be refreshed and be well, and the evil spirit would depart from him." (1 Samuel 16:11-23)

David was skillful, a mighty man of valor, a warrior. He was also prudent in speech and a handsome man and Jehovah is with him. This is before Goliath. David was already known as a man who was an anointed musician. Saul sent messengers and took him to him. Whenever the evil spirit David would play, the evil spirit would depart.

In the 17th chapter we have the account of David and Goliath. Then for years, poor David was hounded by Saul. Eventually Saul dies. David becomes the king of the southern kingdom—Judah, for seven years, with Ishbosheth and Abner leading the northern kingdom. Finally, it all comes under David's rule but this took years.

In 1 Chronicles 13 David wanted to bring up the ark to Jerusalem. He consulted with all the leaders. David said to all the assembly of Israel, "If it seems good to you and it is from the Lord our God, let us send every word to our kinsmen who remain in all the land of Israel. Also, to the priests and the Levites who are with them in their cities

with pasture lands that they may meet with us, and let us bring back the ark of our God to us for we did not seek it in the days of Saul."

All the assembly said that they would do so for the thing was right in the eyes of all the people. David assembled all Israel together, 1 Chronicles 13:5, and he describes it. "They carried the ark of God and a new cart from the house of Abinadab."

"Uzzah and Ahio drove the cart. David and all Israel were celebrating before God with all their might even with songs, and with lyres, harps, tambourines, cymbals, and with trumpets."

"When they came to the threshing-floor of Chidon, Uzzah put out his hand to hold the ark because the oxen nearly upset it. The anger of Jehovah burned against Uzzah, so he struck him down. Because he put his hand to the ark, and he died before God."

I don't even know how to get inside of what David had to be experiencing at this moment. He has been doing what was right before God. Even so David was persecuted by the king. He's been hounded into living in caves in the wilderness. And now he's king, and he's trying to do the right thing and bring the ark of God up.

His friend, Uzzah, on this new cart touches the ark and he dies, and David was afraid of God that day. This is all in 1 Chronicles 13. He did this before all Israel. Everybody's watching and there's David standing alone in the street watching his friend dying. I don't know if you can feel any more alone, and overwhelmed than that.

Yet, this crisis led David to go back and search the scriptures. Instead of going off the deep end and saying, "Why am I serving God?" He went back and he sought God. We have a record of this in 1 Chronicles 15. This is where the verse that I was talking about keeps resonating in my heart.

**1 Chronicles 15:11. "Then David summoned the priests Zadok and Abiathar, and the Levites Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel, and Amminadab, and said to them, "You are the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites. Consecrate yourselves, you and your brothers, so that you may bring up the ark of the LORD, the God of Israel, to the place that I have prepared for it. Because you did not carry it the first time, the LORD our God broke out against us, because we did not seek him according to the rule or the ordinance."**

All right, there it is. That's the verse I've been leading up to. If you go back and you read the Old Testament in the Pentateuch, it was supposed to be the Levites who were to carry the ark. Lets continue reading in the same section of 1 Chronicles 15. "So the priests and the Levites sanctified themselves to bring up the ark of Jehovah, the God of Israel, and the children of the Levites bare the ark of God upon their shoulders with the staves thereon, as Moses commanded according to the word of Jehovah."

David and the leaders had tried to improve upon God's plan. They got this new cart, and put the ark on it. However in searching the Scriptures, David had discovered "we did not seek Him according to the rule or the ordinance or the scripture. We didn't

read what Moses said, that this ark was supposed to be carried by the Levites with their shoulders, with the staves, as Moses commanded according to the word of Jehovah. This time they did it. The Levites sanctified themselves, they carried it like Moses had said in the first place, and the rest is history.

Here's the thing. I think there's a lot that happened in the wilderness with David. as he was watching the sheep and for every time those sheep were attacked, he would defend them whether it was a bear or a lion.

When Saul brought David to him, David told him, "I'll take care of the giant." and Saul says, "Well, what's your training?" He says, "Look, when I'm taking care of sheep, lions and bears attack the sheep and if they come, I take them out."

He was prepared for Goliath by protecting the sheep from bears and lions. I believe David spent a lot of time playing on his musical instrument, the lyre or harp. He was also spending a bunch of time getting to know God.

I don't think there's a more lonely job than taking care of sheep, and you've got to take care of them 24/7. You're out there by yourself and you just have time to play your instruments and seek God.

I believe David learned the principles of Psalm 100 when he was out alone in the wilderness. He learned to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. He learned to come into God's presence with singing and into his court with praise, and he learned to give thanks unto Him and to bless His name.

His experience became the portal into God's presence for David and he never forgot it. Psalms 100 was not just a simple psalm, Psalm 100 became part of Scripture and a path into the presence of God.

This is what I feel so deep in my bones. Whenever I come into His presence. I need to seek God according to the ordinance, according to these principles that He's put in Psalms 100. As I look back, now, over the last 10 years of my life, I've just touched on David, a little bit on Moses. We'll do Moses more next time.

There's something about David and his love and desire for God and his love for God's word. You get that every time you read Psalms 100, Psalms 19 and Psalms 1. It's over and over, David loved the word of God.

Somehow, even with his love for God, he'd missed the fact that the Levites were supposed to carry this ark, and he had a crisis. The crisis ended up shaping him and it refocused him on God's word and he said, "Because you didn't do it at the first, this is what happened, because we didn't seek him according to the rules, according to the ordinances, according to the statutes."

And out of that crisis of faith, "David spoke to the chief of the Levites to appoint their brethren, the singers, with instruments of music, psalteries, and harps and cymbals, sounding a loud and lifting up a voice with joy." Worship was introduced into the temple.

This became part of the law since the Levites did not have to carry the mobile ark any more through the wilderness, because they now had a permanent temple.

Their jobs were changed. David set apart men like Asaph and others to sing, give thanks, praise God, bless His name and apply the principles of Psalm 100. The temple worship all changed because of a crisis in David's life. Up till that point, Moses had written one hymn but worship was not a big part of the temple. David added worship. That was something he learned out in the wilderness. Then he appointed the Levites, to sing, give thanks, and praise God in the Temple worship. They were the ones that were to lead the people into God's presence. This wouldn't have happened if David hadn't had a crisis.

That is what has been on my heart for weeks now. This crisis ended up shaping David's life. He went back into the scriptures and then he appointed these people to be the singers and the worshipers from that point on.

I believe that as something that is going to continue all the way into heaven, is this whole idea of worship that we see in Revelation. It started with David. Amen. Didn't give you much chance to respond to that.

**Scott:** It's all right. I'm just thinking I wish I didn't have to be a crisis that changed things dramatically. It seems that that's the way it works sometimes.

**Steve:** It's an excellent point and I don't know how to respond to that, because I remember in 2012 I was learning so much. Which I was grateful for, but I was going through such pain at the same time. I remember saying to God, "Do I have to go through pain? Isn't there a way that I could just learn these principles?"

As soon as I begin to pray that prayer, it's like my mind started scanning scriptures and I thought of all of God's people. I couldn't think of anybody that didn't go through a crisis. Men of God went through crisis after crisis. Women of God went through crisis after crisis, but that's where God meets us. God is a very present help in times of trouble. Psalm 46

**Steve:** I remember when I was writing newsletters. I'd been reading books by Roy Hession and A. W. Tozer. I asked my friends to pray that God would break me. Elizabeth Elliot read it and said "You don't have to pray for that. That will come. You don't have to ask God for it." She was a very wise woman. Most of us we don't need to be praying for God to break us. God will break us in His time and place.

He's going to be a very present help when he does. He's going to transform us in the process. "Thank you, Father, for transforming David, and thank you that when he could have been discouraged and given up. He drew closer to God, and he sought God. He sought God's words and as a result, the temple worship changed."

And I have been transformed because of what David went through in his crisis. I thank you for the crises in my own life. I didn't like them when I was going through them, at the one hand. On the other hand, I'm grateful for how you drew me closer to yourself

as a result. Thank you for opening the scriptures to us. Help us always to seek you according to the ordinances. Even what we think we know what the Bible says, help us to have an appetite like David, to seek you according to your word. In Jesus name, Amen."

**Scott:** Amen. That's our show for this week, folks. Thanks for joining us for the "Building Faith Families" podcast with Steve Demme. If you have a question for the show, email Steve at [spdemme@Gmail.com](mailto:spdemme@Gmail.com). If you have a question for me, you can reach me at [scott@unsocializedmedia.com](mailto:scott@unsocializedmedia.com). Thanks for joining us. Have a great week.