

● **WARM UP**

As Christians we are often tested in our faith. God permits these tests to strengthen us in Him. Just when we think everything is going all right some obstacle, problem or person seems to get in the way of us enjoying our walk with God. Some of this is of the flesh but much of it is a spiritual battle. We are in this type of battle and we do not wrestle against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers, the rulers of darkness of this age and spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenlies. (Ephesians 6:12). Our enemy is a real person, namely the devil, and he does not want us to succeed in our walk with God. He wants to distract us, defeat us, make us feel unwanted. He tries to fill us with doubt, fear and rejection. Sometimes we cannot see over the hill ahead because of the obstacles that appear to be in our way. The good news is that there is always an answer in God.

● **READ** 1 Samuel 30:1-10

● **BACKGROUND**

David had been stripped of everything. He was absolutely bereft. Perhaps you are feeling bereft today. Perhaps you feel that God is not with you, that you are on your own and everything is against you. You are hurting and people are speaking lies about you. The enemy is filling you with thoughts that you are defeated; or you are going to die of your illness; or you are going to be defeated in your walk with God; or you are going to lose all your money. Here was David, being attacked by his own followers. They were thinking of killing him because they blamed him for the loss of their wives, children and possessions. However, David strengthened himself in the Lord.

● **QUESTIONS**

- 1 What did David do to strengthen himself at this time of trial?
- 2 What does God do when we humble ourselves before Him in our time of trial?

- 3 How can you use God's help to put the enemy to flight?

● **CONSIDER THIS**

David, having strengthened himself in the Lord, found a doorway opened to him. He met an Egyptian who had been with the enemy as they invaded Ziklag but who had been left behind. He was starving. David gave him some food and this man then led them to the enemy camp. With 400 men David overcame the enemy and recovered everyone unharmed.

Have you a real expectancy that God will hear your cry and open a door of salvation for you? Are you crying out to Him in your trouble and believing for an answer? Are you activating your faith in God?

What is God saying to me?

● **LET'S PRAY**

● **REAL LIFE STORIES OF GOD'S POWER**



I have had kidney failure for the last four years. Last week when Bill prayed for me I was healed. I went for a blood test the following day and 99% of the tests came back normal. Bless God for the healing.
Robert