

## Get Real... When God Reigns Us In

1 Samuel 30

📖 Psalm 32:8–9 (NIV) “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. <sup>9</sup> Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding...”

### 1) When we are stubborn, [we will find ourselves in some precarious places.](#)

📖 1 Samuel 27:1–6 (NIV) “David thought to himself, “One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul. The best thing I can do is to escape to the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will give up searching for me anywhere in Israel, and I will slip out of his hand.” <sup>2</sup> So David and the six hundred men with him left and went over to Achish son of Maach king of Gath. <sup>3</sup> David and his men settled in Gath with Achish. Each man had his family with him, and David had his two wives: Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail of Carmel, the widow of Nabal. <sup>4</sup> When Saul was told that David had fled to Gath, he no longer searched for him. <sup>5</sup> Then David said to Achish, “If I have found favor in your eyes, let a place be assigned to me in one of the country towns, that I may live there. Why should your servant live in the royal city with you?” <sup>6</sup> So on that day Achish gave him Ziklag, and it has belonged to the kings of Judah ever since.”

📖 1 Samuel 28:1–2 (NIV) “In those days the Philistines gathered their forces to fight against Israel. Achish said to David, “You must understand that you and your men will accompany me in the army.” <sup>2</sup> David said, “Then you will see for yourself what your servant can do.” Achish replied, “Very well, I will make you my bodyguard for life.”

📖 1 Samuel 30:1–5 (NIV) “David and his men reached Ziklag on the third day. Now the Amalekites had raided the Negev and Ziklag. They had attacked Ziklag and burned it, <sup>2</sup> and had taken captive the women and all who were in it, both young and old. They killed none of them, but carried them off as they went on their way. <sup>3</sup> When David and his men came to Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. <sup>4</sup> So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep. <sup>5</sup> David’s two wives had been captured—Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel.”

### 2) When we are hurting, [we are quick to assign blame.](#)

📖 1 Samuel 30:6 (NIV) “David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the Lord his God.”

📖 1 Samuel 30:8 (NIV) “David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?” “Pursue them,” He answered. “You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue.”

### 3) When we are tired, [we do things others would never do.](#)

📖 1 Samuel 30:9–10 (NIV) “David and the six hundred men with him came to the Besor Ravine, where some stayed behind, <sup>10</sup> for two hundred men were too exhausted to cross the ravine. But David and four hundred men continued the pursuit.”

📖 1 Corinthians 10:12a (Msg) “Don’t be so naive and self-confident. You’re not exempt. You could fall flat on your face as easily as anyone else.”

### 4) When we are obedient, [we will see God at work and receive direction.](#)

📖 1 Samuel 30:8 (NIV) “David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?” “Pursue them,” He answered. “You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue.”

📖 1 Samuel 30:11–14 (NIV) “They found an Egyptian in a field and brought him to David. They gave him water to drink and food to eat— <sup>12</sup> part of a cake of pressed figs and two cakes of raisins. He ate and was revived, for he had not eaten any food or drunk any water for three days and three nights. <sup>13</sup> David asked him, “To whom do you belong, and where do you come from?” He said, “I am an Egyptian, the slave of an Amalekite. My master abandoned me when I became ill three days ago. <sup>14</sup> We raided the Negev of the Kerethites and the territory belonging to Judah and the Negev of Caleb. And we burned Ziklag.”

📖 1 Samuel 30:15–18 (NIV) “David asked him, “Can you lead me down to this raiding party?” He answered, “Swear to me before God that you will not kill me or hand me over to my master, and I will take you down to them.” <sup>16</sup> He led David down, and there they were, scattered over the countryside, eating, drinking and reveling because of the great amount of plunder they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from Judah. <sup>17</sup> David fought them from dusk until the evening of the next day, and none of them got away, except four hundred young men who rode off on camels and fled. <sup>18</sup> David recovered everything the Amalekites had taken, including his two wives.”

### 5) When we are successful, [we should not lose sight of why we won.](#)

📖 1 Samuel 30:19–22 (NIV) “Nothing was missing: young or old, boy or girl, plunder or anything else they had taken. David brought everything back. <sup>20</sup> He took all the flocks and herds, and his men drove them ahead of the other livestock, saying, “This is David’s plunder.” <sup>21</sup> Then David came to the two hundred men who had been too exhausted to follow him and who were left behind

at the Besor Ravine. They came out to meet David and the people with him. As David and his men approached, he greeted them. <sup>22</sup> But all the evil men and troublemakers among David's followers said, "Because they did not go out with us, we will not share with them the plunder we recovered. However, each man may take his wife and children and go.

 1 Samuel 30:23–25 (NIV) "David replied, "No, my brothers, you must not do that with what the Lord has given us. He has protected us and handed over to us the forces that came against us. <sup>24</sup> Who will listen to what you say? The share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him who went down to the battle. All will share alike." <sup>25</sup> David made this a statute and ordinance for Israel from that day to this."

**Digging Deeper**— Are you tired and worn out? Are you weary from the ride? Why are we so quick to assign blame? What have you done that you swore that you would never do? In what ways has God gone before you or shown you where to go? Are  you, like David, a person after God's own heart? What was the most meaningful thing you heard today? What is God telling you to do?