**BEST DAYS MINISTRIES**

**Mr. Matt & Mrs. Sharon**

**David at Ziklag**

**Key Scripture:** **1 Samuel 30:6 (ICB)** *6**The men in the army were threatening to kill David with stones. This upset David very much. Each man was sad and angry because his sons and daughters had been taken as prisoners. But David found strength in the Lord his God.*

**Prayer:**God I honor, praise and thank you for your love for me. I pray I will learn and never forget, that when things go wrong or when trouble come; I can be encouraged and find the strength I need in YOU!

I love you. Amen!

**Key thought:** No matter what happens, I can overcome it, because **“IT’S NOT AS BAD AS IT LOOKS.”**

**David’s War with the Amalekites**

**1 Samuel 30:1-6 (ICB)**

*On the third day David and his men arrived at Ziklag. The Amalekites had raided southern Judah and Ziklag. They had attacked Ziklag and burned it.****2****They took the women and everyone in Ziklag as prisoners, both young and old. But they did not kill any of the people. They only took them away.*

***3****When David and his men came to Ziklag, they found the town had been burned. Their wives, sons and daughters had been taken as prisoners.****4****Then David and his army cried loudly until they were too weak to cry anymore.****5****David’s two wives had also been taken. They were Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail the widow of Nabal from Carmel.****6****The men in the army were threatening to kill David with stones. This upset David very much. Each man was sad and angry because his sons and daughters had been taken as prisoners.* *But David found strength in the Lord his God.*

**A PLACE CALLED PAIN**

**1 Samuel 30:6**

Our lesson begins three days after the Amalekites invaded Ziklag and burned the city and kidnapped their wives and children. **Verse 6** tells us that David was VERY UPSET and that the men in the Army were threatening to stone David for what happen to their families.

Since David was the leader of the Army, he was feeling down because he had a plan that didn’t work out. He had the men leave their city unprotected while they went to join the Philistine Army.

Once they got to the Philistines, they would not let them join the army. So, the men had to go back home to find their family missing and the city burned.

Even though David suffered loss and cried like the other men about the devastation; instead of encouraging one another, the other men became bitter.

**A PLACE CALLED PURPOSE**

Sometimes people can be a part of the problem and the solution when we have bad experiences. When trouble come into our life, there are some people we expect to help us or encourage.

But just in case they don’t, we must take responsibility on how we react. We must remember we have purpose. **Jeremiah 29:11** says,***11****I say this because I know what I have planned for you,” says the Lord. “I have good plans for you. I don’t plan to hurt you. I plan to give you hope and a good future.*

Looked at David, **in verse 6** it says, *‘…but David found strength…’ W*hen you know your purpose. When you know who you are and whose you are. You know where to find your strength.

David knew where to look. The Bible says, David found strength in the Lord. In other words, David knew who to call on. David knew if God didn’t do it; it can’t be done!

When you find your strength in the Lord, according to **Nehemiah 8:10** you can also find your Joy, it says *“…**Don’t be sad because the joy you have in the Lord is your strength.”*

**A PLACE CALLED PRAISE**

I believe, David began to thank and praise God. He realized, it doesn’t matter what happen. **“IT’S NOT AS BAD AS IT LOOKS.”**

In **verses 18-19** it says, “… David got back everything the Amalekites had taken. Nothing was missing.

**SONG - VICTORY IS MINE**

VICTORY IS MINE, VICTORY IS MINE, VICTORY TODAY IS MINE

I TOLD SATAN, GET THEE BEHIND, VICTORY TODAY IS MINE

JOY IS MINE, JOY IS MINE, JOY TODAY IS MINE

I TOLD SATAN, GET THEE BEHIND, JOY TODAY IS MINE

VICTORY IS MINE, VICTORY IS MINE, VICTORY TODAY IS MINE

I TOLD SATAN, GET THEE BEHIND, VICTORY TODAY IS MINE