

**Faith to Serve**

**NOTES**

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**WARM-UP**

- What’s one of the hardest things you’ve ever done for a friend? Why did you do it?
- Do you like initiating conversations? Why or why not?
- Tell us about one person you admire. Why do you look up to him/her?

## WORD

<sup>15</sup>And David said longingly, "Oh, that someone would give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem that is by the gate!" <sup>16</sup>Then the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Philistines and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate and carried and brought it to David. But he would not drink of it. He poured it out to the Lord . . . **2 SAMUEL 23:15,16**  
(Read also **2 SAMUEL 23:1-14.**)

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Service is an expression of devotion to God. David's three mighty men went out of their way to fulfill his request, even though breaking through the Philistine camp was dangerous and possibly fatal. They did this to show their devotion and service to their king. In this lesson, we will look at how we can show our devotion to our King through service.

## 1 Serve in spite of your circumstances.

*And everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was bitter in soul, gathered to him. And he became commander over them. And there were with him about four hundred men.* **1 SAMUEL 22:2**

David's mighty men hadn't always been mighty. They started off distressed, in debt, and discontent—but they became mighty men who served in spite of their circumstances. Because of who God is in our lives and what He has done for us, we can serve faithfully, no matter what we are going through. Our own obstacles can even be opportunities to serve God. According to the Bible, who supplies the strength we need to serve God? (1 Peter 4:11)

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## 2 Serve voluntarily.

*Then the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Philistines and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate and carried and brought it to David. . . .*

**2 SAMUEL 23:16**

Nobody asked the mighty men to get the water for David, but they did it anyway. Likewise, when we serve, we do it out of a heart that is overflowing with thankfulness to God. In what way do you serve? Why do you do it?

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## 3 Serve for the glory of God.

*. . . But he would not drink of it. He poured it out to the Lord . . .* **2 SAMUEL 23:16**

Though David's mighty men served him, he acknowledged that what they did for him was actually an offering to the Lord. Though serving may not be acknowledged or seen by others, we do so because we want to honor and glorify God with our time, talent, and resources. Who should we please when we serve? (Galatians 1:10)

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## APPLICATION

- In what way can you serve God and His people? What could be hindering you from serving, and what will you do about it?
- Why do you serve? Who receives the honor and glory when you serve?
- To whom can you preach the gospel this week? How can you serve this person and point him/her to God?

## PRAYER

- Thank God for how He served us, by sending His Son to save us from our sins. Thank Him also for the privilege of serving Him.
- Pray that you would serve Him with humility and devotion. Pray that you would always have a pure heart that is centered on God, not people.
- Pray that God will give you more opportunities to serve Him, and that you would serve others so that you can lead them to Him.



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