

GNLCC

Life-Sharing Bible Study

Set Free
Free To Worship
Free To Love
Free To Serve

Lesson 1 Set Free To Worship 2 Samuel 24:1-25

1. If someone were to ask you, how do I worship God what would you tell them?

2. What are some of the kind of things that will hinder our worship of God?

David had insisted on numbering the amount of troops that he had at his disposal. He was not suppose to put his trust in the number of troops, but in the Lord. When others tried to persuade him not to number the troops, he insisted on doing it anyways. Once the census of the troops was taken, David immediately realized what he had done was wrong. It kept him from being able to fully worship the Lord.

2 Samuel 24:10 (New International Version, ©2011)

¹⁰ David was conscience-stricken after he had counted the fighting men, and he said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done. Now, LORD, I beg you, take away the guilt of your servant. I have done a very foolish thing."

3. What did David need to be set free from in order to worship the Lord?

4. When we do not feel like worshipping God, where should our examination begin to discover the problem?

2 Samuel 24:11-25 (New International Version, ©2011)

¹¹ Before David got up the next morning, the word of the LORD had come to Gad the prophet, David's seer: ¹² "Go and tell David, 'This is what the LORD says: I am giving you three options. Choose one of them for me to carry out against you.'" ¹³ So Gad went to David and said to him, "Shall there come on you three^[a] years of famine in your land? Or three months of fleeing from your enemies while they pursue you? Or three days of plague in your land? Now then, think it over and decide how I should answer the one who sent me."

¹⁴ David said to Gad, "I am in deep distress. Let us fall into the hands of the LORD, for his mercy is great; but do not let me fall into human hands." ¹⁵ So the LORD sent a plague on Israel from that morning until the end of the time designated, and seventy thousand of the people from Dan to Beersheba died. ¹⁶ When the angel stretched out his hand to destroy Jerusalem, the LORD relented concerning the disaster and said to the angel who was afflicting the people, "Enough! Withdraw your hand." The angel of the LORD was then at the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite.

¹⁷ When David saw the angel who was striking down the people, he said to the LORD, "I have sinned; I, the shepherd,^[b] have done wrong. These are but sheep. What have they done? Let your hand fall on me and my family."

¹⁸ On that day Gad went to David and said to him, "Go up and build an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite." ¹⁹ So David went up, as the LORD had commanded through Gad. ²⁰ When Araunah looked and saw the king and his officials coming toward him, he went out and bowed down before the king with his face to the ground. ²¹ Araunah said, "Why has my lord the king come to his servant?" "To buy your threshing floor," David answered, "so I can build an altar to the LORD, that the plague on the people may be stopped."

5. How is David's act of worship in building an altar, tied to him and his people being set free?

6. How is God being exalted in the midst of all that is taking place with the plague and the altar?

7. How does the worship of God set us free in giving our very all?

²² Araunah said to David, “Let my lord the king take whatever he wishes and offer it up. Here are oxen for the burnt offering, and here are threshing sledges and ox yokes for the wood. ²³ Your Majesty, Araunah^[c] gives all this to the king.” Araunah also said to him, “May the LORD your God accept you.” ²⁴ But the king replied to Araunah, “No, I insist on paying you for it. I will not sacrifice to the LORD my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.”

8. Why is it so important for David to pay from his own money for his worship of the Lord?

9. Worship involves putting our total being into our service of God. We find this passage in Scriptures, Isaiah 29:13 (New International Version, ©2011)

¹³ The Lord says: “These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.”

How do we become guilty today of what’s going on in this passage? How do we try to offer the Lord sacrifices that cost us nothing?

So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen and paid fifty shekels^[d] of silver for them.²⁵ David built an altar to the LORD there and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then the LORD answered his prayer in behalf of the land, and the plague on Israel was stopped.

10. Why does worship involve putting ourselves into what it is that we are offering?

11. Is our worship complete if we give less than a tithe?

12. People will often say, "I don't want the praise and worship songs. I just want the word." Look at the following verses: Psalm 95 & Psalm 96

¹ Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. ² Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. ⁶ Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

¹ Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.² Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

What is the purpose of praise and worship songs?

13. Who is to benefit from using music and song in the worship service?

14. On a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being nonexistent and 10 being superb, how pleased is God with the amount of praise and worship you offer to the Lord.

Lesson 2 Set Free To Love Luke 10:25-37

1. Has there ever been a time when a total stranger did something significant for you without expecting anything in return. If so share it with the group?

2. When you hear the word neighbor, who comes to your mind?

3. Is Love something we have to wait to feel before we can act upon it, or is love more of a choice regardless of how we feel?

Luke 10:25-29 (New International Version, ©2011) The Parable of the Good Samaritan ²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶ “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” ²⁷ He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’^[a]; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’^[b]” ²⁸ “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.” ²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

4. What do you think it means to be set free to love the Lord with all your heart and all your soul?

5. Do you think the expert wanted to love as much as possible or as little as possible? Why

6. Do you make it your business to love as much as possible at church or as little as possible? What about at home or at work?

Luke 10:30-37 (New International Version, ©2011)

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii^[a] and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’

³⁶ “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” ³⁷ The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

7. Why was it important for Jesus to say the man was stripped of his clothing in the story?

8. What do you think the priest and the Levite saw when they saw the man on the road? What did they need to be set free from?

9. What keeps us from being set free to help others in their time of need?
10. What did the Samaritan see when he came to the man? What had the Samaritan been set free from?
11. What were the costs involved for the Samaritan to make a difference in this man's life?
12. What is the cost involved for you to make a difference in your church and in the lives of those around you?
13. Does God expect us to risk our lives and our possessions for people we do not know today? Why or Why not?
14. Do you want to be set free to love others? If so, what's one step you can take toward your freedom. (In other words, what will you give up, to love others?)

Lesson 3 Set Free To Serve: Luke 12:13-21, Ecclesiastes 4:7-12

1. If you were to win a 26 million dollar jackpot, what do you think would be your greatest loss?
2. What would a 26 million dollar jackpot winner need to be set from?

Ecclesiastes 4:7-8 (New International Version, ©2011)

⁷ Again I saw something meaningless under the sun: ⁸ There was a man all alone; he had neither son nor brother. There was no end to his toil, yet his eyes were not content with his wealth. “For whom am I toiling,” he asked, “and why am I depriving myself of enjoyment?” This too is meaningless— a miserable business!

3. What keeps the person in the passage above from being content? What did he need to be set free from?
4. How does a lack of contentment, lead us into bondage?
5. What’s something you got, that you were convinced you needed it, but now that you have it, it rarely ever gets used?

6. How does a lack of contentment destroy our relationships with those we love?

Luke 12:13-21 (New International Version, ©2011) The Parable of the Rich Fool

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ ¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’ ²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ ²¹ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

7. What is your definition of greed?

8. What did the rich man need to be set free from in this parable?

9. When Jesus says, “life does not consist of an abundance of possessions,” what does Jesus mean by the word “life.”

Why do we disagree with Jesus' statement about possessions? What do we mean by "life."

10. What are some of the bigger barns that we are constantly building personally today on a smaller scale in our lives?

11. How does death put possessions in perspective?

12. King Solomon spent a lifetime gaining great wealth and riches. His son King Rehoboam was disobedient to God and lost all of his father's wealth to King Shishak of Egypt. Should we be concerned about how the wealth we spend our life time gaining is used by those who come after us?

13. What can we do to insure that some of our wealth goes to building the kingdom of God?

14. What area of your life do you need to learn to have more contentment?