

BEFORE WE GO

A podcast sharing years of wisdom, insights and humor from the ministry team of David & Karen Mains.

SCRIPTURE & REFLECTION QUESTIONS – WK 2

Read: 1 Samuel 23:14–29

1. God had chosen David to be the next king of Israel, yet Saul was still in power. In what ways did God encourage and protect David during this confusing and difficult time?
2. What do you think prompted Jonathan to go and meet with David? How did he help David find strength in the Lord?
3. Jonathan's words must have encouraged David to remember God's faithfulness. How can your words remind others of the love and concern God has for them?
4. During a time of extreme testing, David found encouragement and support from Jonathan. Has someone recently encouraged you? Write down their names and what they said or did.
5. How can you begin to develop a Jonathan/David-type support relationship?

Read: Proverbs 17:17; 18:24; 27:9–10, 17

1. Put in your own words the message of Proverbs 17:17. How specifically does David and Jonathan's friendship in 1st Samuel 23 illustrate this verse?
2. What does Proverbs 18:24 tell you about being careful in your choice of friends?
3. How has the counsel of a friend (Proverbs 27:9) been important to you recently? How have you been able to help another in this fashion?
4. Proverbs 27:10 suggests that there are times when friends are even more accessible than family. When has this been true in your life?
5. Name three friends who have helped you mature in your faith walk as suggested in Proverbs 27:17. What qualities did they possess that enabled them to do this for you?

Read Matthew 18:19–20

1. Are you prone to go to others for prayer support? Why or why not?
2. What is an aspect of your life where another's perspective might prove helpful to you?
3. What is a simple way in ensure that Jesus is a part of your discussion time with a friend?
4. How do the words of our Lord in these verses encourage you to experience the power of a prayer partnership?
5. Do you anticipate that praying with a friend will prove easier or harder than praying on your own? Why?

Read Galatians 6:2 and Luke 10:1–3

1. The early Christians certainly relied on each other in challenging situations. In confusing times, do you tend more to withdraw and try to handle everything on your own, or actively seek support and prayer from other believers? In light of today's readings, do you think you need to make any changes? Explain.
2. What does this verse (Galatians 6:2) say about the Apostle Paul's view of supportive relationships?
3. How have others helped bear your burdens? What is a practical way you can do that for someone else?
4. What example is Jesus setting in Luke 10:1–3? Why do you think He sends His disciples out in twos?
5. The practice of sending out believers in twos was continued in the early Church (see Acts 13:2; 15:27, 39–40). Give three reasons you can come up with as to why they acted in this way?