

Pursuing the Deliverer

1 Samuel 29-31

1. Saul Pursues Deliverance, Finds Destruction
2. David Pursues the Deliverer, Finds Deliverance
3. God Pursues David

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:

1. We find David and the people with him grieving in 1 Sam 30:4. Read and describe their mourning in your own words. Have you ever wept until you had no strength to weep? Describe the different responses to grief in v.6. How do you tend to respond in the midst of sorrow in pain?
2. Looking back over the book of 1 Samuel, in what ways could we say that Saul's life marked by fear? Are there any ways that fear marks your own life? How do Christ's words in Matthew 6:25-34 help us to pursue our deliverer (and not merely deliverance)?
3. In what ways did Saul know or not know God? Where was the disconnect? Are there aspects of Saul's story that resonate with you? Do you find yourself associating yourself with God at certain times, but not truly knowing him as your own lord and savior?
4. In times of crisis, do you tend to look to your own strength, or to God's strength? Read Psalm 18 (including the heading). Where does David turn in v.1-6 and 16-19? What can you do (both now and in the middle of crisis) to more actively pursue the Lord?