

Sermon Notes

Text: 2 Samuel 21

Theme: Leadership, Obedience, and God's Power Over Giants

Big Idea: God blesses leadership that seeks Him, protects His servants, and trusts His power—no matter how great the opposition.

I. Personal Testimony: The Cost of Faithful Ministry

A. Ministry Is Not Always Easy

- Personality conflicts among God's people can be some of the hardest trials
- Even growing, "successful" churches can be spiritually difficult places
- Faithful servants may feel discouraged, weary, and tempted to quit

B. God's Call to Stay

- The desire to quit does not always mean God is finished
- Through prayer and time, God changes hearts—including the leader's
- Sometimes obedience is simply **staying where God placed you**

Key Thought:

Ministry isn't about comfort—it's about calling.

Application:

- Don't mistake hardship for God's disapproval
 - Stay faithful until God clearly releases you
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II. Leadership Requires Seeking the Lord (2 Samuel 21:1–3)

A. The Problem: A National Famine

- Three years of famine during David's reign
- This was not random—it was spiritual in nature

B. David's Response: He Inquired of the Lord

- David did not rely on experience, power, or opinion

- He went directly to God for the answer

Principle:

Leadership that honors God must begin with seeking God.

Application:

- Leaders must pray before acting
 - Families, churches, and individuals suffer when God is not consulted
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III. Sin Has Consequences (2 Samuel 21:1–9)

A. Saul's Sin Against the Gibeonites

- Saul violated a covenant and shed innocent blood
- The guilt affected the entire nation

B. Making Things Right God's Way

- David asked what must be done to restore God's blessing
- The issue was not appeasing people—but honoring God

Key Truth:

God's blessing cannot rest on unresolved sin.

Application:

- Personal or national sin always carries consequences
 - True repentance seeks God's solution, not the easiest solution
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IV. Compassion in Judgment: Rizpah's Example (2 Samuel 21:10–14)

A. A Mother's Grief and Faithfulness

- Rizpah guarded the bodies of her sons day and night
- She endured until God sent rain again

B. God Was Moved

- David honored the dead with proper burial
- After this, God was entreated for the land

Lesson:

God sees faithfulness, even in grief.

Application:

- Stay faithful in sorrow
 - God responds when obedience and compassion meet
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V. Leaders Need Protection (2 Samuel 21:15–17)

A. David Grows Weary in Battle

- David, once mighty, is now vulnerable
- A Philistine giant nearly kills him

B. Abishai Steps In

- David's nephew protected him
- Leaders are not invincible—they need support

Key Statement:

Don't be the one who attacks leadership—be the one who protects it.

Application:

- Pray for your pastor and leaders
 - Avoid gossip, murmuring, and division
 - Be a defender, not a destroyer
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VI. Giants Still Fall (2 Samuel 21:18–22)

A. Four Giants Defeated

- Descendants of giants—large, intimidating enemies

- Each one fell by the hand of God's servants

B. God Is Greater Than Any Giant

- Giants may be people, problems, or pressures
- Size never determines victory—God does

Core Truth:

The bigger the giant, the greater the glory when God brings it down.

Application:

- No addiction, struggle, or trial is too big for God
 - Trust His power, not your strength
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VII. Final Applications

- Leadership must be grounded in prayer
 - Sin must be addressed honestly
 - God's servants must be protected, not torn down
 - Giants will fall when God is trusted
 - Stay faithful—God is still at work
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Closing Thought

It doesn't matter how big the problem is—God is bigger.
Stay obedient. Stay faithful. Stay dependent on Him.