



# HUDDLE: David

## Week 6 – David and Uzzah

Learning to love and follow Jesus—together—by His strength,  
in every day life.



# Day 1: David Huddle (Week 5, David & Lament)

Pray	10 min	
Time in the Word	10 min	Read: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 5:1-11 <input type="checkbox"/> Day 1 Insights (next slide)
Silence		How is God directing your thoughts today?
Solitude		Have you intentionally gotten away to be alone (including technology/social media)?
Reflection	10 min	Be still to experience His presence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What were you thankful for today?</li><li>• Where did you experience His presence today (or not)?</li><li>• How did you love your “neighbor” today?</li><li>• What do you want His perspective on for tomorrow?</li></ul>



# Day 1: David Huddle (Week 6, David & Uzzah)

2 Samuel 5: 1-11

Background/Insight:

## Jerusalem:

- David is now King - not just of Judah, but all of Israel
- He's considering how to pull the two kingdoms (Judah and Israel) together into one
- Jerusalem ("the city of peace") is a small, fortified city on the border between the norther tribes of Israel and the southern tribes of Judah. David sees this location as strategic.
- Jerusalem was occupied by the Jebusites, but David conquers the city without shedding any blood.
- The city is designated as "Zion" (meaning "holy place" or "kingdom of heaven") for the first time. It was also referred to as "the city of David".

## Questions for Reflection:

David spent roughly 20 years between being anointed king by Samuel and being installed officially as king. Why might God have put David through all he's been through when it could've been so much more expedient? What might this show you about how God works in your life?

In verse 10, David's kingdom grew. What do you notice about why? How might this give you perspective on your life & career?

# Prayer, Day 1



- If you are comfortable praying as a conversation with God, find some focused time to do so.
  - Find a place where you can have silence and solitude and talk to God and be attentive to how He leads your thoughts and emotions.
  - You may find it helpful to write down what you talked with God about and/or how He answered in a journal.
- If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to pray aloud the following prayer from Paul's letter to the Ephesians
  - If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to pray using Paul's prayer of thanksgiving for others as an example (from Ephesians 1: 15-22): You can use this to pray for yourself and for others.
  - Tell God you love him.
  - Ask God for spiritual wisdom & that He would reveal Himself in ways you can know him more.
  - Pray that you know the hope of His calling you.
  - Pray that you would know the riches of glory of the inheritance of the saints.
  - Ask God that you would know the power He gives to those who believe.
  - Praise Him for being the God who is above all rule and authority and has the name above all other names.
  - Thank Him for being head of the Church.



# Day 2: David Huddle (Week 5, David & Uzzah)

Pray	10 min	
Time in the Word	10 min	Read: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 5:12, Psalm 132 <input type="checkbox"/> Day 2 Insights (next slide)
Silence		How is God directing your thoughts today?
Solitude		Have you intentionally gotten away to be alone (including technology/social media)?
Reflection	10 min	Be still to experience His presence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What were you thankful for today?</li><li>• Where did you experience His presence today (or not)?</li><li>• How did you love your “neighbor” today?</li><li>• What do you want His perspective on for tomorrow?</li></ul>



# Day 2: David Huddle (Week 6, David & Uzzah)

Read 2 Samuel 5:12, Psalm 132

## Background/Insight:

### David's growth:

- Up to this point in his story, we see the rise of David. Now we see the reign of David.
- For seven and a half years, David has been king of a single tribe: Judah. Two years previously, he was the leader of a guerrilla band of six hundred men at Ziklag. For eight years before that, he was a fugitive in the wilderness, avoiding being killed by Saul. Before that, he was Saul's musician and giant-killer. And he was first 'discovered' and anointed by Samuel when, as the youngest of Jesse's eight sons, he was pulled out of the sheepfold of Bethlehem's hills and anointed the future king of Israel.
- At 37, David showed a generous side as he made peace with the northern tribes and sought to bless Jonathan's decedents. David's roots are as a shepherd. And he governs that way as well.
- David became the central figure of the nation. He goes from living marginally and defensively to living royally and commandingly. His life changed radically. It's a story of continued growth.
- "By taking the David story seriously, we find that we're taking our own stories seriously, realizing just how God-shaped, God-influenced, God graced these storied lives of ours in fact are."

## Questions for Reflection:

Would you say that your life has been one of “radical” change? Has it been one of continued growth? If not, how might you describe your growth since knowing Jesus?

From Psalm 132, what do you note about how David responded to God’s faithfulness in praise; the words used, the specifics described, etc. How would you describe your worship of Him at the moment?

# Prayer, Day 2



- If you are comfortable praying as a conversation with God, find some focused time to do so.
- Find a place where you can have silence and solitude and talk to God and be attentive to how He leads your thoughts and emotions.
- You may find it helpful to write down what you talked with God about and/or how He answered in a journal.

- If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to pray using the Lord's Prayer as an outline for your own words to express...

Tell God how thankful you are for the privilege of calling the King of Kings "our Father," & that He listens and hears.

God is worthy of honor and worship

We should acknowledge that things on earth are not what they are supposed to be, and that we should ask God to be aware of His presence and strive to see what He wants this world to be. We should let others see His Kingdom by how we live.

We should be thankful that He provides our basic needs.

We should pray for forgiveness and forgive others

We should name our weaknesses and our temptations, and for the Spirit to strengthen us. We should close with praise.



# Day 3: David Huddle (Week 6, David & Uzzah)

Pray	10 min	
Time in the Word	10 min	Read: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 6:1-4 <input type="checkbox"/> Day 3 Insights (next slide)
Silence		How is God directing your thoughts today?
Solitude		Have you intentionally gotten away to be alone (including technology/social media)?
Reflection	10 min	Be still to experience His presence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What were you thankful for today?</li><li>• Where did you experience His presence today (or not)?</li><li>• How did you love your “neighbor” today?</li><li>• What do you want His perspective on for tomorrow?</li></ul>



# Day 3: David Huddle (Week 6, David & Uzzah)

Read 2 Samuel 6: 1-4

Background/Insight:

## The Ark:

- In an effort to consolidate God's kingdom on earth, David decides to bring the "Ark of the Covenant" to Jerusalem.
- The Ark is a box just short of four feet long and a little over two feet wide and two feet high. It was made of wood and plated with gold.
- Two angel-like figures were on the top (or lid).
- The Ark contained the tables of stone from Moses, a jar of manna from the wilderness and Aaron's rod that budded. These were reminders of what God did for them: commanded them (the tables), provided for them (the manna), and saved them (the rod).
- The Ark didn't have magical properties - it was a reminder of God's providence and that the Jews should worship Him. Its purpose was to remind Israel of the kind of God they worshiped.
- The Ark had been sitting for thirty years in the village of Kiriath-Jearim in the house of Abinadab - a priest.

## Questions for Reflection:

David has a desire to please the Lord and bring the Ark back to Jerusalem, and prepared a large celebration to welcome it back. This symbolic act would remind them that God's presence is the most important thing. Do you feel that God is truly at the very center of your life? Why did you answer the way you did?

If He isn't the true center of your life, how might your life be different if He were?

# Prayer, Day 3



- If you are comfortable praying as a conversation with God, find some focused time to do so.
- Find a place where you can have silence and solitude and talk to God and be attentive to how He leads your thoughts and emotions.
- You may find it helpful to write down what you talked with God about and/or how He answered in a journal.
- If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to pray using the ACTS method as an outline for your own words to express...
- Adoration (a time of worship): don't be afraid of "artistic expressions" here, or to use Psalms or hymns or other forms of praise.
- Confession: We all fall short and miss the mark. Confession of sin helps us our relationship to God.
- Thanksgiving: Simply tell God what you're thankful for.
- Supplication: Asking God for needs of the world, our country & leaders, our church, and anything and everything else. God wants to hear from you.



# Day 4: David Huddle (Week 5, David & Lament)

Pray	10 min	
Time in the Word	10 min	Read: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 6:5-11 <input type="checkbox"/> Day 4 Insights (next slide)
Silence		How is God directing your thoughts today?
Solitude		Have you intentionally gotten away to be alone (including technology/social media)?
Reflection	10 min	Be still to experience His presence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What were you thankful for today?</li><li>• Where did you experience His presence today (or not)?</li><li>• How did you love your “neighbor” today?</li><li>• What do you want His perspective on for tomorrow?</li></ul>



# Day 4: David Huddle (Week 6, David & Uzzah)

Read 2 Samuel 6: 5-11

Background/Insight:

## Uzzah's Death:

- Why did Uzzah die? 2 Samuel 6:7 "And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah, and God struck him down there because of his error, and he died there beside the ark of God." Sometimes it's as if God invites us to fill in the blanks: "I'm not sure, but it could be...".
- Uzzah was responsible for keeping the Ark. But after all that time (30 years), he likely thought God was the box. He had God in a box. Don't we sometimes bound God as if we understand who He is and limit Him? Sometimes we put God in a box, as if He can be defined, understood, compartmentalized. The Ark and the things in the Ark symbolize what God has done and will do. God is not in the Ark.
- The Mosaic tradition gave clear direction that no human was to touch the Ark. It was to be carried by Levites using poles inserted through rings. Why, then, did Uzzah decide to use a cart? Did he think he had a better idea? Better than God's command?
- Peterson: "Uzzah is the patron saint of those who uncritically embrace technology without regard to the nature of the Holy." "Uzzah's death wasn't sudden; it was years in the making."
- "God will not be managed." "We don't take care of God; God takes care of us."

## Questions for Reflection:

Imagine the mood of the nation now, having prepared for the Ark to arrive with a grand celebration, only to hear that Uzzah died and the Ark would not be arriving...and due to Uzzah wasn't obedient to God. Have you ever tried to take shortcuts instead of being obedient to Him? How did this show you the importance of God's ways being better than man's?

Based on Peterson's quote to the left: Have you seen years of little decisions that didn't honor God cause someone's faith crash & burn?

# Prayer, Day 4



- If you are comfortable praying as a conversation with God, find some focused time to do so.
- Find a place where you can have silence and solitude and talk to God and be attentive to how He leads your thoughts and emotions.
- You may find it helpful to write down what you talked with God about and/or how He answered in a journal.

- If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to pray using the breath method to pray:
- Simply take a Psalm and breathe in as you read the first line, and then exhale on the second.
- Take deep, long, slow breaths.

You can also do this with just one verse of Scripture, and almost every Psalm can be done this way. Try to focus on the ones that focus on God and/or resonate with where you are at the moment.



# Day 5: David Huddle (Week 6, David & Uzzah)

Pray	10 min	
Time in the Word	10 min	Read: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 6:12-15 <input type="checkbox"/> Day 5 Insights (next slide)
Silence	10 min	How is God directing your thoughts today?
Solitude		Have you intentionally gotten away to be alone (including technology/social media)?
Reflection		Be still to experience His presence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What were you thankful for today?</li><li>• Where did you experience His presence today (or not)?</li><li>• How did you love your “neighbor” today?</li><li>• What do you want His perspective on for tomorrow?</li></ul>



# Day 5: David Huddle (Week 6, David & Uzzah)

Read 2 Samuel 6: 12-15

## Background/Insight:

### David's Dance:

- After the incident with Uzzah, the Ark stayed with the house of Obed-edom the Gittite for three months. It's likely that during that time, David researched to understand the rules regarding how the Ark is to be handled.
- The Ark is meant to inspire our worship of God - not focus our attention in it.
- Peterson: "David had learned to live openly, daringly, trustingly, and exultantly before God."
- David wasn't careful with God - he often got angry with God but treated God as God. David took pains to ensure that God was properly honored and worshiped. He danced and worshipped joyfully and recklessly.
- "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Proverbs 9:10. But warnings shouldn't move us to being cautious. Peterson: "What they do is prevent us from reducing God to our specifications. What they do is prevent death by religion."
- David was teaching his people how to truly worship God. He put on priestly clothing, assembled a band with harps, lyres, tambourines, castanets and cymbals and properly honored God.

### Questions for Reflection:

How do you think David felt when his wife criticized his worship?

Like Peterson's quote to the left asserts, would you say that you are learning to live "openly, daringly, trustingly and exultantly" before God? What does that (or might that) look like for you?

# Prayer, Day 5



- If you are comfortable praying as a conversation with God, find some focused time to do so.
- Find a place where you can have silence and solitude and talk to God and be attentive to how He leads your thoughts and emotions.
- You may find it helpful to write down what you talked with God about and/or how He answered in a journal.
- If you are new to prayer, or struggle with focus, you may want to simply pray using a Psalm...they are really great prayers! Find one that you resonate with, and pray it aloud:
- Simply choose a Psalm, Pray aloud, even if in a whisper, slowly and with concentration on the words.
- Try to be attentive to the thoughts that come to mind and discern if those may be something God is trying to tell you.



# Day 6: David Huddle (Week 6, David & Uzzah)

Pray	10 min	
Time in the Word	10 min	Read: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Samuel 6:16-23 <input type="checkbox"/> Day 6 Insights (next slide)
Silence	10 min	How is God directing your thoughts today?
Solitude		Have you intentionally gotten away to be alone (including technology/social media)?
Reflection		Be still to experience His presence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What were you thankful for today?</li><li>• Where did you experience His presence today (or not)?</li><li>• How did you love your “neighbor” today?</li><li>• What do you want His perspective on for tomorrow?</li></ul>



# Day 6: David Huddle (Week 6, David & Uzzah)

Read 2 Samuel 6: 16-23

Background/Insight:

## Michal Despises David:

- Michal - David's wife - despised David for not acting regal, as a king "should". She was first embarrassed, then contemptuous of David's dance.
- Peterson: "Michal would have been comfortable walking beside the Ark with Uzzah, stately, proper, careful. And dead."
- Michal's attitude and behavior is an fitting bookend to the story of Uzzah and the Ark.

## Questions for Reflection:

David shows a great deal of political savvy in this story. What possible leadership lessons do you think David may have gleaned from his 20 or so years of preparation that you see in this section?

Do you agree or disagree with Peterson's statement on the left? Might there be other reasons for her contempt? Why might her spiritual development have been stunted even though married to David?

# Prayer, Day 6: A Time for Reflection



Traditional time of Examen	A Few Thoughts on This Method
<p>This is a version of the five-step Daily Examen that St. Ignatius practiced.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Become aware of God's presence.</b></li><li><b>2. Review the day with gratitude.</b></li><li><b>3. Pay attention to your emotions.</b></li><li><b>4. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.</b></li><li><b>5. Look toward tomorrow.</b></li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Breathe &amp; slow down. Ask God to make you aware of His presence and to bring to mind moments of your day to focus on.</li><li>2. Walk through your day and give thanks for areas where you saw God "show up" and for His blessings.</li><li>3. The things you feel when you review often highlight areas where God wants you to focus and what he wants to teach you. Often this results in confession when you see your emotions out of line with walking in the Spirit.</li><li>4. Ask God to show you moments where you loved others well (or, conversely, He may bring to mind an area you didn't). Give thanks or ask forgiveness as warranted.</li><li>5. Think through your day tomorrow and ask God what He may be calling you to do or be in the upcoming day.</li></ol>



# Day of Huddle



# HUDDLE Check-In (1<sup>st</sup> Half-hour)

10 min	General Check-in	<p>Describe this week's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sleep habits</li> <li>• Dietary habits</li> <li>• Exercise habits</li> <li>• Intellectual curiosity development (keeping up with current events, artistic endeavors, learning new skills, hobbies, etc.)</li> </ul>
10 min	Emotional Check-In	<p>Using the <i>SACHET</i> wheel, describe how you're doing emotionally right now. You may want to write down some of these to pray for your huddle during the week.</p>
10 min	Rhythms Check-In	<p>Describe your experience with the individual and corporate rhythms this week.</p> <p>How can the huddle encourage you this week in these areas? How can you encourage the huddle this week in these areas?</p>



# HUDDLE Discussion



## Possible Discussion Questions:

1. What other situation in the Bible did God "smite" an individual(s)? What does the Bible say was the reason?
2. What clues remind you that you have strayed into the wilderness of religion and have left that sense of relationship behind?
3. What were David's two conflicting emotions when Uzzah was killed?
4. In what ways is getting angry with God a part of being in relationship with him?
5. What changed about David when he returned to retrieve the Ark and bring it to Jerusalem?
6. How does Matthew 23:27 provide a powerful commentary by Jesus on the results of starting off out of reference for God and ending up trying to manage God?
7. What kind of attitudes did Michal share with Uzzah? Why did they influence her response when she saw her husband dancing before the Lord?



# HUDDLE Discussion

## **Conclusion/Take-away(s):**

- What are your take-aways from this story of David? How do you think God wants you to apply this story for yourself?
- Pray that God reveals His message and will for you from this chapter in David's life.