

People of influence – David

Connex

Over the last two weeks we have looked at and experienced the presence of the Lord at C3 Marion. It's been an inspiring time, full of encouragement and expectation.

Today I want to go a little deeper and explore a person of influence uniquely connected to the presence of the Lord.

This person wrote and has inspired thousands of songs, poems and creative works because of his heart and its connection to the presence of the Lord.

It was his heart that wanted to build God a house. It was his heart that cried out for justice for the nation of Israel. It was his heart that stood against insurmountable odds to bring freedom to a nation. It was his heart that wrote songs of praise to his God. It was his heart that when it did wrong ran back to God for mercy. **It was his heart that many today want to be like. It was his heart that encapsulates the very essence of the connection with God through the presence of the Lord.** His heart cries out cast me not away from your presence oh Lord.

His name is David - Son of Jesse.

Lets explore his life, his heart. Lets hear his heart beat today.

David was born to Jesse from the tribe of the Bethlehem. This made him a Bethlehemite. Jesus was also born in Bethlehem – one of the many reasons why he was called a 'Son of David'.

Samuel, the prophet, comes down to his house and asks to anoint one of the young men of the house as a future king. He looks over Jesse's sons and says there must be one more. David is called from the field and anointed by Samuel. 1 Samuel 16

Interesting to note, just because you are anointed doesn't mean everything goes smoothly for you. Also just because you are anointed doesn't mean you should stop working. David still shepherded the sheep. (Verse 19) God however orchestrated the rise of David. All he had to do was stay close to God and stay close to what he was doing.

Four Characteristics of David

- Anointed and humble – Samuel and sheep
- Visionary and courageous – Goliath
- Leader and pastor – Saul and threats
- Sinner and mercy – Bathsheba and Psalms 51

But David's heart was unique. He still hungered after the presence of the Lord.

1. Is there is anything that leads us to the presence of God?

If you could do one thing to get into the presence of the Lord, what would you do?

If you could do one thing to maintain your connection to the presence of the Lord, what would it be?

2. When things go wrong in your world whose example do you seek for connection to God?

I want to encourage you to follow David's example.

Story of Bathsheba

- He sinned
- He hid
- He was uncovered
- He cried out - repentance

What a great example to follow! If you let it David's life will influence you towards God.

So lets' look a little deeper into his life as to why is he a person of influence?

1. He loved the house of God

- a. 1 Kings 8:15-17
- b. It was in the heart of David to build a house for the name of the Lord God of Israel.
- c. A person with Kingdom Influence looks for ways to build the house of God. They volunteer for working bees, give to building programs, clean up if they see mess, straighten chairs if crooked, look for things that need fixing and say I will do it.
- d. A person with Kingdom influence has a heart for the house of God. They don't get caught up in disputes over pastors or churches. They love their local church and will stand for it when someone says otherwise.
- e. A person with kingdom influence loves the house of God.

3. How do you express your love for the house of God?

2. He was generous

- a. He spared Saul twice
 - i. Amazingly Saul tries to kill him. Sends people out to hunt David down. YET David still spares Saul. Now that is Generosity. A generous person is generous not because of what he or she can get from the generosity, **they are generous because they live a life of generosity regardless of what's in it for them.**
- b. He gathered together abundance for Solomon to build the house of God.
 - i. 1 Chronicles 22:1-5
 - ii. David gathers abundance.

3. He loved family

- a. While the son of Bathsheba lived David cried out for him.
- b. When Absalom dies, David mourns over him. 2 Samuel 18:33
- c. David was a man who loved his family. He did what ever he could to repair, not hold grudges, release forgiveness even to his own peril. He even left his own house behind when Absalom set up his kingdom.
- d. Being a person of influence means loving your family.

4. He honoured those needed honouring.

- a. Give honour to who honour is due.
- b. From David we get the word of God 'Touch not the Lord's anointed'. (1 Samuel 26:9; 1 Samuel 24:4-7) Here is a man who exemplified this. He had every reason to condemn Saul. He had opportunity to condemn him, kill him and turn people away from Saul. **He had a right.**
- c. Yet David mourns over the fact he cut a small piece of Saul's clothes off. Now that is heart.
- d. A person of influence is not out to build they own empire at the expense of another. They know when to give honour and how to give honour too.
- e. In 1 Chronicles 19:19 we see how far that honour went. David would not drink the water he so desired because he wanted to honour the blood of the men who had fought all to get it.

4 What does touch not the Lord's anointed mean?

5. He loved to worship

- a. David wrote countless psalms and hymns of praise to God.
- b. He poured his heart out to God.
- c. When he protected his father's sheep, he sang songs.
- d. When we won battles and sang songs
- e. **Here are a few examples**
- f. He brought the Ark of the Covenant into the city and danced to the Lord. 2 Samuel 6:14
- g. When he was crazy before Abimelech, doing stupid things he still wrote songs. Psalms 34
- h. When people betrayed him. Psalms 52, Psalms 54
- i. When he was about to die he composed songs to praise to God. 1 Chronicles 16:7-36

- j. When he was alone being chased by a murderous plot of man, even his own son Absalom; Psalms 3
- k. When he was captured by his enemies Psalms 56
- l. When we was hiding from Saul. Psalms 57
- m. When he was delivered from his enemies he wrote songs. Psalms 18.
- n. When he built the house of God. Psalms 30
- o. When He was overcome with loneliness he wrote songs
- p. When His son dies he wrote songs. Psalms 51

5. Looking at the five things that made David influential (loved the house of God; generous; loved family; honour; worship) Which one is the most important for you and why?

David didn't just write songs, his heart was for worship. Everything he did was for worship.

SO many people today want that Davidic spirit to come upon them. It's not about the writing of songs. It's about the heart.

If you write songs, great. But don't focus on the songs; my strong advice is 'keep your heart sweet'.

David was a person of influence. I did not mention much today about his victory over Goliath. His life was so much more than one event.

David had gifts. He had talents. He could sing, write songs, play instruments, look after sheep, care for his father's house, kill goliaths, win wars, unite a nation, and plan to build a house for God. He did so much. His gifting where strong.

But His gifting was not what made him a person of influence.

Gifting doesn't always give you influence.

Gifting opens the door to influence.

Decisions and courage you give. Influence.

Decisions made David a person of influence. I want to encourage you today. Be a person of influence. Make the decision based on the word of God. Stand up for truth. Stand up for honesty. Stand up for the church.