**Today is the conclusion to this series…**

**Pastors Jerry and Kimberly will be back next week!**

**Bible Dec…**

**Review week 1 & 2…**

**Week one:** The advantages of being a child of God**…**

**John 1:12-13** “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: **13**who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

**Week two:** We talked about our part…

**Matthew 6:31-33** “Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ **32**For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. **33**But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

**Today I want to speak to the heart a little more… Open up to 2 Samuel 7…**

**It’s important to get deep sometimes…**

**STORY:**

-My wife tends to want to get deep… 3AM “how’s your heart”

-Another time “Can you cry?”

-I’m going to ask you all to do me a favor today… I’d like for to cry…

-No! haha I’d like for us to present ourselves before the Lord today.

 -Let’s do that now.

-Provision cannot be the priority…

**2 Samuel 7** “Now it came to pass when the king was dwelling in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies all around, **2**that the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains.” **3**Then Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that *is* in your heart, for the Lord*is* with you.”

**4**But it happened that night that the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying, **5**“Go and tell My servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord: “Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? **6**For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle. **7**Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?’ ” ’ **8**Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts: “I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel. **9**And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who *are* on the earth. **10**Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously, **11**since the time that I commanded judges *to be* over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the Lord [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%207&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-8192b)]tells you that He will make you a house. **12**“When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. **13**He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. **14**I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. **15**But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took *it* from Saul, whom I removed from before you. **16**And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Samuel%207&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-8197e)]you. Your throne shall be established forever.” ’ ”

**17**According to all these words and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David. 18Then King David went in and sat before the Lord; and he said: “Who *am* I, O Lord God? And what is my house, that You have brought me this far? [NO ENTITLEMENT] 19And yet this was a small thing in Your sight, O Lord God; and You have also spoken of Your servant’s house for a great while to come. *Is* this the manner of man, O Lord God? 20Now what more can David say to You? For You, Lord God, know Your servant. 21For Your word’s sake, and according to Your own heart, You have done all these great things, to make Your servant know *them.* 22Therefore You are great, O Lord God. For *there is* none like You, nor *is there any* God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears. 23And who *is* like Your people, like Israel, the one nation on the earth whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people, to make for Himself a name—and to do for Yourself great and awesome deeds for Your land—before Your people whom You redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, the nations, and their gods? 24For You have made Your people Israel Your very own people forever; and You, Lord, have become their God.

25“Now, O Lord God, the word which You have spoken concerning Your servant and concerning his house, establish *it* forever and do as You have said. 26So let Your name be magnified forever, saying, ‘The Lord of hosts *is* the God over Israel.’ And let the house of Your servant David be established before You. 27For You, O Lord of hosts, God of Israel, have revealed *this* to Your servant, saying, ‘I will build you a house.’ Therefore Your servant has found it in his heart to pray this prayer to You.

28“And now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are true, and You have promised this goodness to Your servant. 29Now therefore, let it please You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue before You forever; for You, O Lord God, have spoken *it,* and with Your blessing let the house of Your servant be blessed forever.”

Is your heart just for your house? Or for the Lord?

V25 Bless David so that all the world may know

This was David when he was a little older… But this has been the heart of David for a long time.

Look back at his younger years in 1 Samuel…

**1 Samuel 17:46** LAY CONTEXT “This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, **that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.”**

Notice what he was after… He wanted God to come through for him, but why??

-Was it so that everyone would know that he was a good leader?

-Was it even just to help his country?

-It was so that “**all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.”**

-He was after bringing God the glory!

Let me ask you something… Why do you want what you want?

-Does it have anything to do with the Lord being glorified? Or is it all self?

**SAYING:** “Keep your eyes on the prize…”

-Well, that can be a good thing… If it’s the right thing.

-If you’re a married man, but the prize in your eyes is your secretary, GET YOUR EYES OFF THE PRIZE JACK…

 -There’s somebody watching online today named “Jack” who’s like “not me…”

WHAT’S YOUR PRIZE??

**CLARIFY:** There’s nothing wrong for being in faith that the Lord is going to provide provision…

-Sometimes God has called Marlene and me to stand in faith and pray in faith that He’ll provide all of our needs.

-Sometimes it’s something specific we’re believing for… We’re believing for a home to own. That’s not bad.

 -However, that’s not really our prize though… He is.

-Sometimes all of our prayer requests look like things we want God to do for us…

-Which isn’t necessarily bad by the way… God tells us to call to Him for help.

-However, is that all we’re after? Is what He can do for us?

-Are we not after what we can do for Him?

So what’s my point? Well we’re talking about God’s provision…

* My point is that if you want the provision of God… One key to receive it is that the provision of God is not your top priority.

Let me close with 1 Kings 3…

**1 Kings 3:4-15** “Now the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that *was* the great high place: Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. **5**At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask! What shall I give you?” **6**And Solomon said: “You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as *it is* this day. **7**Now, O Lord my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I *am* a little child; I do not know *how* to go out or come in. **8**And Your servant *is* in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted. **9**Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?” **10**The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. **11**Then God said to him: “Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, **12**behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you. **13**And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days. **14**So if you walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.” **15**Then Solomon awoke; and indeed it had been a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, offered up burnt offerings, offered peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.”

God wants to provide for His people… But the posture of their heart is important to Him.

-And He sees the heart… He knows what our top priority is…

**We’re not a perfect church… there’s no perfect church… Because churches are lead by people… and people are people… So that comes with stuff sometimes.**

**However, what we can promise you is that this church has never been and will NEVER be about money…**

**EXAMPLE:** Situations in leadership meetings… “This direction that we are going down will likely effect giving…” “Oh well, Lord, is this what saying? We’ll do it”

-Even this whole move to House Churches and to spreading disciples more organically vs. bringing everyone to campus, THIS IS A TERRIBLE FINANCIAL STRATEGY…

What are you after in your life? What is your top priority?

Let me close with a beautiful Psalm of David…

It’s a beautiful combination of the Lord being his priority, while he also trusts the Lord for the provision and breakthrough needed…

-Listen up, this may be for you today.

**Psalm 27:4-14** “One *thing* I have desired of the Lord,
That will I seek:
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord
All the days of my life,
To behold the beauty of the Lord,
And to inquire in His temple.
**5**For in the time of trouble
He shall hide me in His pavilion;
In the secret place of His tabernacle
He shall hide me;
He shall set me high upon a rock.

**6**And now my head shall be [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%2027&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-14292c)]lifted up above my enemies all around me;
Therefore I will offer sacrifices of [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm%2027&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-14292d)]joy in His tabernacle;
I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.

**7**Hear, O Lord, *when* I cry with my voice!
Have mercy also upon me, and answer me.
**8***When You said,* “Seek My face,”
My heart said to You, “Your face, Lord, I will seek.”
**9**Do not hide Your face from me;
Do not turn Your servant away in anger;
You have been my help;
Do not leave me nor forsake me,
O God of my salvation.
**10**When my father and my mother forsake me,
Then the Lord will take care of me.

**11**Teach me Your way, O Lord,
And lead me in a smooth path, because of my enemies.
**12**Do not deliver me to the will of my adversaries;
For false witnesses have risen against me,
And such as breathe out violence.
**13***I would have lost heart,* unless I had believed
That I would see the goodness of the Lord
In the land of the living.

**14**Waiton the Lord;
Be of good courage,
And He shall strengthen your heart;
Wait, I say, on the Lord!

PRAY