

After God's Heart

David's Mighty Men
Taken from 1 Samuel Chapter 22 and
1 Chronicles Chapters 11 and 12

Lesson 10

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. What instruction or encouragement did you receive from your study last week?

2. 2 Corinthians 5:17 declares, *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.* Yes! Our God is a God of transformation! Be sure to note God's transforming power in the lives of David's men as you complete your study this week. Use the following Scriptures to note specific details about these men:
 - a. 1 Samuel 22:1-2

 - b. 1 Chronicles 11:10

 - c. 1 Chronicles 12:8

 - d. 1 Chronicles 12:38

3. As you consider God's strengthening power this week, ask Him to strengthen you as you do your lesson.

*It is God who arms me with strength,
And makes my way perfect.
Psalm 18:32*

SECOND DAY: Read 1 Samuel 22:1-2

1. Men came to David in the midst of his flight from Saul. According to 1 Samuel 22:1a, where was David at this time?
 - a. Who *heard it* and joined him there? 1 Samuel 22:1b

2. Using 1 Samuel 22:2a specify the characteristics of those who *gathered to* David:
 - a. *Everyone who was* _____
 - b. *Everyone who was* _____
 - c. *Everyone who was* _____
 - (1) Share your impression of these men.
 - (a) How can you relate to them?

3. What did David become to these men? 1 Samuel 22:2b

4. Link the characteristics of these men with 1 Corinthians 1:26-29. What do you see?
 - a. Like David, God accepts the distressed and downtrodden. What does it mean to you that God accepts you? See Ephesians 1:4-6.

5. Compare the number of men in 1 Samuel 22:2c with 1 Samuel 23:13 and note the increase. What does this suggest to you?

6. Read Psalm 9:9-10 and comment on what David knew about God's heart toward *the oppressed*.
 - a. Why do you think these men were drawn to David?

THIRD DAY: Read 1 Chronicles 11:10-25

1. According to 1 Chronicles 11:10, what did the *heads of the mighty men* do for David?

2. Use 1 Chronicles 11:11-25 to note the deeds of each of the following *mighty men*:
 - a. *Jashobeam* (verse 11)
 - (1) *Who brought about a great victory?* 1 Chronicles 11:14b
 - (2) What does this suggest to you about the deeds of these men?

 - b. *Eleazar* (verses 12-14)
 - (1) *Who brought about a great victory?* 1 Chronicles 11:14b
 - (2) What does this suggest to you about the deeds of these men?

 - c. *Three of the thirty chief men* (verses 15-19)
 - (1) What do their actions demonstrate about their relationship with David?
 - (2) Comment on David's attitude toward these *three*. 1 Chronicles 11:19

 - d. *Abishai* (verses 20-21)

 - e. *Benaiah* (verses 22-25)

3. Which of David's men impresses you the most? Why?

4. Considering the background of these men (1 Samuel 22:2), why are their deeds so remarkable?
 - a. What does this reflect about David's leadership?

 - b. Read Psalm 144:1 and Daniel 11:32b. How are these truths evident in the lives of David's *mighty men*?
 - (1) Share a time God strengthened you.

FOURTH DAY: Taken from 1 Chronicles 12:1-18

1. From 1 Chronicles 12:1-2 describe the *men who came to David at Ziklag*.
 - a. What was David's situation at this time?
 - b. Why is it interesting to note that these men *were of Benjamin, Saul's brethren*?

2. 1 Chronicles 12:8 tells us that *some Gadites joined David* while he was *in the wilderness*. What were these men like?
 - a. Use 1 Chronicles 12:15 to comment on what these men did.

3. *Who came to David at the stronghold?* 1 Chronicles 12:16

4. Remark on David's words when he *went out to meet them*. 1 Chronicles 12:17

5. What happened to Amasai when he spoke to David? 1 Chronicles 12:18a
 - a. How did he declare his loyalty to David?
 - (1) Observe David's discouragement at this time from 1 Samuel 27:1-6. How would Amasai's declaration have encouraged David?
 - b. To whom did Amasai pronounce *peace*?
 - (1) Who did he point to as the source of David's *peace*?
 - (2) How might this explain why Amasai and his men were drawn to David?
 - c. What was David's response to these men? 1 Chronicles 12:18c

6. Even as God calls leaders, He also calls people to support them. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 and share your thoughts.
 - a. In what way can you fulfill this calling?

FIFTH DAY: Read 1 Chronicles 12:19-22, 38-40

1. What happened according to 1 Chronicles 12:19?
 - a. Link this with 1 Samuel 29:3-11 and comment on the background of these events.

2. How did *those of Manasseh who defected to David* help him? 1 Chronicles 12:20-21
 - a. From 1 Chronicles 12:22 describe the increase of David's *army*.
 - (1) What does this suggest to you?

3. According to 1 Chronicles 12:38a, why did *these men of war* come to Hebron?
 - a. 1 Chronicles 11:10 and 12:23 explain that this was done *according to the word of the Lord*. What does this convey concerning the actions of these men?
 - b. Note *the word of the Lord* concerning David from the following references:
 - (1) 1 Samuel 24:20
 - (2) 1 Samuel 25:30
 - (3) 2 Samuel 3:17-18
 - (4) 1 Chronicles 11:3
 - c. Comment on the *heart* these men had toward David. 1 Chronicles 12:38a
 - (1) Read 2 Chronicles 16:9a. How are you inspired by this?
 - (a) How can you have a loyal heart?

4. From 1 Chronicles 12:38b note the mentality of the *rest of Israel*. Why was this important?

5. Summarize the events of 1 Chronicles 12:39-40.
 - a. According to 1 Chronicles 12:40b, why did everyone give so *abundantly*?

6. In light of today's study, what impresses you most about these men?

SIXTH DAY: Review

1. The *mighty men* of David were specifically called by God. With this in mind, comment on the following aspects of these men:
 - a. Their changed condition - 1 Samuel 22:2; 1 Chronicles 12:8, 22

 - b. When they joined David -1 Chronicles 12:1, 8a, 16

 - c. Their deeds -1 Chronicles 11:11-25

 - d. Their heart - 1 Chronicles 12:18, 38a

 - e. Their purpose -1 Chronicles 11:10; 12:23, 38

2. In what way do these *mighty men* minister to you concerning God's special purposes for you?

*You have also given me the shield of Your salvation;
Your right hand has held me up, Your gentleness has made me great.
Psalm 18:35*