DNOW graphic

Series graphic w/email

{*Put these on the same slide; split screen* along with the BOLD line below)

**We all live with and in tension.**

Rope tension image

<https://thumbor.forbes.com/thumbor/fit-in/900x510/https://www.forbes.com/health/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/frayed_rope.jpeg>

Thumb up & Thumb down image

<https://th.bing.com/th/id/OIP.cq_bx1--fbJuCWRfu3IDgQHaEK?rs=1&pid=ImgDetMain>

**The Tension of I Samuel // Our Tension**

* **God Human King**
* **Need Want**
* **David Saul**

**Matthew 1:1**

An account of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham …

🡺INSERT 2 KINGDOMS // 2 CIRCLES

**Hebrews 11:13-14, 16 (NLT)**

All these people died still believing what God had promised them. They did not receive what was promised, but they saw it all from a distance and welcomed it. They agreed that they were foreigners and nomads here on earth. **14**Obviously people who say such things are looking forward to a country they can call their own … But they were looking for a better place, a heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.

{*one slide; one at a time*}

**What is life like NOW (in the tension) in the Kingdom of God?**

**Which K/kingdom am I NOW living in? Who is my king?**

**I Samuel 29:1-2**

The Philistines brought all their military units together at Aphek while Israel was camped by the spring in Jezreel. **2**As the Philistine leaders were passing in review with their units of hundreds and thousands, David and his men were passing in review behind them with Achish.

**I Samuel 29:4**

The Philistine commanders, however, were enraged with Achish and told him, “Send that man back and let him return to the place you assigned him. He must not go down with us into battle only to become our adversary during the battle.

**#1: The Kingdom of God is 100% Grace 🡪 Overcoming Grace**

**John 16:33b**

But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”

**Exodus 34:14**

… for you shall not worship any other god, for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God

2 Circles Diagram

*{same slide but one at a time*}

**Appreciate the seriousness of David’s/our condition.**

**Recognize there is no hero but God and no hope apart from God**

**Receive this grace by faith**

**Ephesians 2:4-9**

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love that He had for us, **5**made us alive with Christ even though we were dead in trespasses. You are saved by grace! **6**He also raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, **7**so that in the coming ages He might display the immeasurable riches of His grace through His kindness to us in Christ Jesus. **8**For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God’s gift— **9**not from works, so that no one can boast.

*{all together one slide*}

**Grace Camouflage:**

**Owe Deserve**

**Rights Expect**

**Mine**

2 Circles Diagram

**Romans 11:32-33**

For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that He may have mercy on all.

**33**Oh, the depth of the riches and the wisdom and the knowledge of God! How unsearchable His judgments and untraceable His ways!

**Romans 1:20b-21**

… people are without excuse. **21**For though they knew God, they did not glorify him as God or show gratitude. Instead, their thinking became worthless, and their senseless hearts were darkened.

*{2 slides; one at a time*}

**Warning, Invitation, and/or Hope:**

**🡺The jealousy of God for your undivided love and devotion will always have the final say.**

**I Samuel 30:1-3**

David and his men arrived in Ziklag on the third day. The Amalekites had raided the Negev and attacked and burned Ziklag. **2**They also had kidnapped the women and everyone in it from youngest to oldest. They had killed no one but had carried them off as they went on their way.

**3**When David and his men arrived at the town, they found it burned. Their wives, sons, and daughters had been kidnapped.

**I Samuel 30:4,6a**

David and the troops with him wept loudly until they had no strength left to weep …  **6**David was in an extremely difficult position because the troops talked about stoning him, for they were all very bitter over the loss of their sons and daughters …

**I Samuel 30:6b-8**

… But David found strength in the Lord his God.

**7**David said to the priest Abiathar son of Ahimelech, “Bring me the ephod.” So Abiathar brought it to him, **8**and David asked the Lord, “Should I pursue these raiders? Will I overtake them?”

The Lord replied to him, “Pursue them, for you will certainly overtake them and rescue the people.”

**2) The Kingdom of God “works” at rock bottom.**

**Philippians 4:13 (NASB)**

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

**a) Exercise personal faith 🡪 Faith becomes a verb (again)**

**b) Exercise the privilege of God’s presence**

2 CIRCLES DIAGRAM

**I Samuel 30:9-20**

So David and the six hundred men with him went. They came to the Wadi Besor, where some stayed behind. **10**David and four hundred of the men continued the pursuit, while two hundred stopped because they were too exhausted to cross the Wadi Besor.

**11**David’s men found an Egyptian in the open country and brought him to David …

**13**Then David said to him, “Who do you belong to? Where are you from?” “I’m an Egyptian, the slave of an Amalekite man,” he said. “My master abandoned me when I got sick three days ago. **14**We raided the south country … and we burned Ziklag.” **15**David then asked him, “Will you lead me to these raiders?” … **16**So he led him, and there were the Amalekites, spread out over the entire area, eating, drinking, and celebrating because of the great amount of plunder they had taken from the land of the Philistines and the land of Judah. **17**David slaughtered them from twilight until the evening of the next day … **18**David recovered everything the Amalekites had taken; he also rescued his two wives. **19**Nothing of theirs was missing from the youngest to the oldest, including the sons and daughters, and all the plunder the Amalekites had taken. David got everything back. **20**He took all the flocks and herds, which were driven ahead of the other livestock, and the people shouted, “This is David’s plunder!”

**3) The Kingdom of God is inevitably victorious.**

**Victory in 1 Samuel 29 🡪 Larger Victory in 2 Samuel**

**Resurrection 🡪 2nd Coming**

2 Circles Diagram

**David’s Path to Victory:**

* **Starts within: resurrection heart, new creation**
* **Faith becomes a verb**
* **Be open to “unexpected” …**
* **Live by grace as a victor 🡪Live Sent**

**I Samuel 30:21-22**

When David came to the two hundred men who had been too exhausted to go with him and had been left at the Wadi Besor, they came out to meet him and to meet the troops with him. When David approached the men, he greeted them, **22**but all the corrupt and worthless men among those who had gone with David argued, “Because they didn’t go with us, we will not give any of the plunder we recovered to them except for each man’s wife and children. They may take them and go.”

2 Circles Diagram

**I Samuel 30:23-25**

But David said, “My brothers, you must not do this with what the Lord has given us. He protected us and handed over to us the raiders who came against us. **24**Who can agree to your proposal? The share of the one who goes into battle is to be the same as the share of the one who remains with the supplies. They will share equally.” **25**And it has been so from that day forward. David established this policy as a law and an ordinance for Israel and it still continues today.

**4) The Kingdom of God transforms us into a reflection of our One, True King—Jesus!**

*{all together; one slide*}

**“Graced” people give grace.**

**Forgiven people forgive.**

**Found people find people.**

**Blessed people bless.**

**Loved people love.**

2 Circles Diagram

**1 Samuel 31:1-6**

The Philistines fought against Israel, and Israel’s men fled from them and were killed on Mount Gilboa. **2**The Philistines pursued Saul and his sons and killed his sons … **3**When the battle intensified against Saul, the archers found him and severely wounded him. **4**Then Saul said to his armor-bearer, “Draw your sword and run me through with it, or these uncircumcised men will come and run me through and torture me!” But his armor-bearer would not do it because he was terrified. Then Saul took his sword and fell on it. **5**When his armor-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on his own sword and died with him. **6**So on that day, Saul died together with his three sons, his armor-bearer, and all his men.

**I Samuel 31:8-10**

**8**The next day when the Philistines came … They cut off Saul’s head, stripped off his armor, and sent messengers throughout the land of the Philistines to spread the good news in the temples of their idols and among the people. **10**Then they put his armor in the temple of the Ashtoreths and hung his body on the wall of Beth-shan.

**5) The Kingdom of God: the shadow proves the sun.**

2 Circles Diagram

**John 8:12**

Jesus spoke to them again: “I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows Me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life.”

**John 19:14**

Now it was the day of preparation for the Passover; it was about the sixth hour. And Pilate said to the Jews, “Behold, your King!”

**Matthew 27:37**

Above his head they put up the charge against Him in writing: “This Is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

**Ephesians 1:18-19**

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened so that you may know what is the hope of

His calling, what is the wealth of His glorious inheritance in the saints, **19**and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the mighty working of His strength.