

HOW TO STRENGTHEN
YOURSELF IN THE LORD

¹David and his men reached Ziklag on the third day. Now the Amalekites had raided the Negev and Ziklag. They had attacked Ziklag and burned it, ²and had taken captive the women and everyone else in it, both young and old. They killed none of them, but carried them off as they went on their way. ³When David and his men reached Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive.

1 Samuel 30:1-9 (NIV)

⁴So David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep. ⁵David's two wives had been captured—Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail, the widow of Nabal of Carmel. ⁶David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. But David found strength in the Lord his God.

1 Samuel 30:1-9 (NIV)

⁷Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelek, “Bring me the ephod.” Abiathar brought it to him, ⁸and David inquired of the Lord, “Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?” “Pursue them,” he answered. “You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue.”

⁹David and the six hundred men with him came to the Besor Valley, where some stayed behind.

1 Samuel 30:1-9 (NIV)

¹⁷David fought them from dusk until the evening of the next day, and none of them got away, except four hundred young men who rode off on camels and fled. ¹⁸David recovered everything the Amalekites had taken, including his two wives.

1 Samuel 30:17-20 (NIV)

¹⁹Nothing was missing: young or old, boy or girl, plunder or anything else they had taken. David brought everything back. ²⁰He took all the flocks and herds, and his men drove them ahead of the other livestock, saying, “This is David’s plunder.”

1 Samuel 30:17-20 (NIV)

David Was Honest Before The Lord

When David and his men reached Ziklag, they found it destroyed by fire and their wives and sons and daughters taken captive. **So David and his men wept aloud** until they had no strength left to weep.

1 Samuel 30:3-4 (NIV)

David Was Honest Before The Lord

- Long term discouragement is always deeply connected to DENIAL
- Strength in God requires an open channel to Him

David Recommitted Himself To The Lord

David was greatly distressed because the men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit because of his sons and daughters. **But David found strength in the Lord his God.**

1 Samuel 30:6 (NIV)

David Recommitted Himself To The Lord

Strengthen - To become stronger or grow stronger; to have courage and to make firm and stronger by binding and tying

David Sought Guidance From The Lord

Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelek, **“Bring me the ephod.”** Abiathar brought it to him, and **David inquired of the Lord,** “Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?” “Pursue them,” he answered. “You will certainly overtake them and succeed in the rescue.”

1 Samuel 30:7-8 (NIV)

