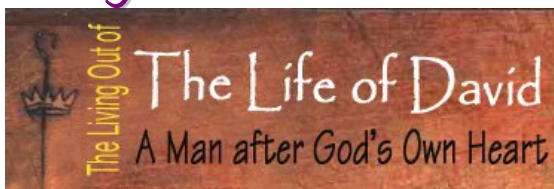




# 2 Samuel 16-17

*Handling a Crises* Sun, Feb 11<sup>th</sup> 2007



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**How do you...are you...will you handle a Crises?**

**Crises? Web. - A situation or period in which things are very uncertain, difficult, or painful, especially when action must be taken to avoid complete disaster or breakdown. A critical moment when something important happens or is decided**

- Every life faces times of crises—Question is how?
- Handling those crises times—often determines life

**Today – continue study of David’s life – in time of Crises**

- 25-30 years into David’s reign—is a coup to overthrow
- Leading the coup – his son and good friend

**Want to seek to learn how he handled this crises**

- Won’t say covers every needed factor in a crises or even all that the Bible says about such times
- Instead – just watching one handle...learn from
- But see 7 Tips on how David handled crises

**Going to cover a lot of ground today – over 2 chapters**

- As prayed, that is how God guided me this week
- Going to read all of those verses – not apology, God’s Word is most important – let know

## I. Submit to God's Will 15:24-26

1. Covered this in previous weeks – refer to again
2. **Wonderful submission here – Your will be done**
3. **Key in life...in one sense leads to all that follows**
4. **Key in a crises – accept it, whatever God has**
  - a. This isn't whining, fits, pity part or more
  - b. This isn't anger, lashing out
  - c. This all by itself–will give you amazing peace

## II. Pray through the Crises 15:31

1. **Real submission leads us here – to pray**
  - a. Submission isn't "karma" – just accepting life – it is desiring, seeking and praying for God's will
2. **Notice David responds in prayer – immediately**
  - a. Hears of Ahithophel
  - b. Just responds and immediately prays – awesome!
3. **Don't want this to sound too "expected" – but is true**
  - a. If we would pray–how many things helped, avoided
  - b. Think of Joshua and people of Gideon Jos 9:14
  - c. Think of David and the Ark
  - d. Pro 3:5-6 – key of acknowledging Him- asking, submitting
4. **Pray often, continually – through**
  - a. See in Psalms David writes–is what did, encourages

### **III. Make Practical Steps 15:27-29, 32-37**

- 1. David submitted to God—but doesn't mean didn't act**
  - a. Real submission, prayer—don't keep us from action
  - b. Action without prayer is arrogance. But prayer without action is laziness
  - c. Many who say surrendered – but really gave up
- 2. In first section – set up communication—get information**
  - a. Not a lack of faith or wrong.
  - b. Good to know what is going on...information
- 3. In Second section – makes practical provision**
  - a. Heard of Ahithophel – seeks to counter
  - b. Hushai showing up then – is the answer to prayer
- 4. Seek it work out 16:15-17:23**
  - a. Technical note – Absalom becomes 10 times worse**
    - i) 10 times the adulterer David was
    - ii) 10 times the rapist that Amnon was
  - b. Ahithophel's good advice**
  - c. Hushai's advice**
    - i) God used Hushai to defeat Ahithophel's advice
  - d. See the communication system David set**
  - e. Ahithophel sees where going – commits suicide**
    - i) Much like Judas with Jesus
- 5. Point – it is good, right to make practical steps**
  - a. Surrender and prayer don't take place of works
    - i) Guy without food...get a job
  - b. Trust in God and keep your powder dry
  - c. Confess before you – difficult to decide, but do need to see God works often practically

## IV. Don't make Rash Decisions 16:1-4

1. Thought called to action...are actions to avoid
2. Weird scene – but understand it as David - thought true
  - a. Problem – information is incorrect, twisted
  - b. Truth is Mephibosheth home mourning, prayer
  - c. How Ziba thought would work out...don't know
  - d. Sadly people of take advantage of those in crises
3. Don't make unformed decisions
  - a. Don't decide after hearing only one side of issue
  - b. **Pro 18:13,17** – need to hear whole, both sides
  - c. True in friendships, marriage – avoid quick judgment
4. Avoid decisions in times of Crises
  - a. Great piece of advice...if you will tuck it away
  - b. In crises, trial, discouragement—avoid decisions
  - c. Often wrong...can't see clearly
  - d. Many have quit jobs and more in such times
  - e. Just note to self – not a good time for decision

## V. Don't defend yourself 16:5-14

1. A second action to avoid – defending your self
2. Heartbreaking scene quite honestly- imagine
3. Abishai – friend, loyal to David –wants to defend
  - a. Easy to do when you love someone, want to
  - b. Think of disciples with Jesus – sons of thunder
  - c. Think of Peter in the garden
4. David shows him that he still doesn't get his ways
  - a. These had similar talk 30 years before w/Saul
5. It is to such we are called – **Rom 12:14-19; 1 Pet 2:20-24**

## VI. Learn from, in the Crises 16:10-12

- 1. In midst of crises, in midst of cursing – interesting**
  - a. David is open, seeking to have God speak
- 2. My mind flips to advice from CH Spurgeon to pastors**
  - a. Seek to glean for good in all comments
  - b. When complimented – say in heart – don't know me – but Lord You do – make me worthy of such
  - c. When insulted – say in heart, Lord is unfair treatment, but probably some truth – Lord purge
  - d. Good advice for all of us

## VII. Receive, Note Kindness 17:27-29

- 1. In the midst of crises – trouble – easy to whine**
  - a. Easy to focus on all bad, unfair, not right
- 2. But notice, in midst of crises – amazing kindness**
  - a. Easy to ignore, not receive...not notice
- 3. Three men come out of woodwork to support**
  - a. Shobi son of Nahash! Hanun's brother? Wow. David sought to show kindness, but war. Here this man sees it...extends kindness – wow
  - b. Machir – took care of Mephibosheth in Lo Debar, saw David's kindness...repaying
  - c. Barzillai – first appearance in Bible – old man
    - i) Yet compassion for David (David will repay)
- 4. So easy to see the bad...and miss the good**

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## Conclusion

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### Crises are not easy....but they can be handled

- This book tells us how
- Not just in principle, but example – it can be done

### In one sense – all said flows from Submission

### But the opposite things can...often are done

- Instead of submission – self will
- Instead of prayer – trusting in self
- Instead of wise action – giving up, trying harder
- Instead of waiting – tons of rash decisions
- Instead of letting God defend – defend self
- Instead of learning – missing whole point
- Instead of accepting kindness – missing

### Christian – I call you to these things – real submission

### Non- Christian – in truth – none of these are yours

- How do you handle crises? Trust in?
- Could it be – part of purpose is to draw you to see your need of God
- Problem – sin has separated you – no access
- Jesus came, died, to bring you to Him