


# THE GATHERING OF THE INLAND VALLEY


EPIC VALUES; LIFE OF DAVID-CELL CURRICULUM


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## EPIC VALUES: FROM THE LIFE OF DAVID

### EPIC VALUES: THE GATHERING OF THE INLAND VALLEY

 **ENCOUNTER** Encounter the living God and never be the same!

 **PARTICIPATE** Accelerate and deepen your spiritual growth through participation; learn to hear the voice and wisdom of God in your daily life by participating in His nature, life, grace & gifts!

 **IMAGINE** Allow God's wisdom, love, beauty and power create your personal destiny of more than you can ask, think or imagine!

 **CONNECT** Connect to God and his people by developing a network of vital relationships; this is key to spiritual and ongoing growth.

### I. DAVID'S ENCOUNTER: SEEK AFTER THE FATHERS HEART!

A. A man/woman of God who seeks after the Father's heart is not one who will never make a mistake, however it is the response of the man/woman's heart towards God after their mistake that makes the determination.

B. David had a life riddled with mistakes which God foreknew when God called Samuel to go and anoint David as the new King of Israel.

*Acts 13:22 "After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, 'I HAVE FOUND DAVID the son of Jesse, A MAN AFTER MY HEART, who will do all My will.'*

*1 Samuel 13:14 "But now your kingdom shall not endure. The LORD has sought out for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has appointed him as ruler over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you."*

C. The following words describe the heart of David as seen in his own writings

**Humble** – *Lowborn men are but a breath, the highborn are but a lie; if weighed on a balance, they are nothing; together they are only a breath. [Psalm 62:9](#)*

**Reverent** – *I call to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies. [Psalm 18:3](#)*

**Respectful** – *Be merciful to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and my body with grief. [Psalm 31:9](#)*

**Trusting** – *The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid? [Psalm 27:1](#)*

**Loving** – *I love you, O Lord, my strength. [Psalm 18:1](#)*

**Devoted** – *You have filled my heart with greater joy than when their grain and new wine abound. [Psalm 4:7](#)*

**Recognition** – *I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders. [Psalm 9:1](#)*

**Faithful** – *Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. [Psalm 23:6](#)*

**Obedient** – Give me understanding, and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart. [Psalm 119:34](#)

**Repentant** – For the sake of your name, O Lord, forgive my iniquity, though it is great. [Psalm 25:11](#)

David's example is a great road map for how we are to live our life.

GQ: Which of these areas needs your greatest attention for improvement? How may the Lord be leading you in this area?(Be as transparent as you are able to be)

## II. DAVID'S PARTICIPATION: EMBODY THE WARRIOR SPIRIT!

A. David's place in the reign of God was as a warrior king. As long as David was participating in the role and function he was designed and called for he stayed out of trouble and God's favor was upon him. Whenever David began to operate outside of his designed role and function the doors of temptation and distraction swung wide open.

**Ephesians 2:10** For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

GQ: How do you see your place currently in the reign [Kingdom of God]?

GQ: What are some things that you allow to distract you or bump you out of your designated lane?

GA: Pair up and complete the following statement. I can overcome the temptation of \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

B. As we discover our identity in Christ our role continuously unfolds before us. It is imperative we stay in our lane and NOT try to be someone or something we are not designed to be. Our greatest engagement in life will be when we are fighting the good fight of faith while walking upon the narrow path.[ See 2 Samuel 11 in the life of David ]

**Romans 8:28** And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

**2 Cor 10:4-6** ...for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.

GQ: In what situations are you most likely to try and be someone you are not?

C. The narrow path [Matt 7:13-14] will often be laden with demonic traps and snares designed to ensnare us, hurt us, discourage us in order to turn aside and walk in a different direction; seeking to avoid pain often results in deception. But God will protect us in the midst of such danger.

**Psalm 91:11-13** For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent.

*Proverbs 16:25 There is a way that seems right to a man but in the end it only leads to death.*

*GQ: In what ways am I most likely to try and avoid pain? How is this ungodly and how does it take you out of your God given identity?*

*GQ: What are some ways God is calling me to stay engaged when painful situations or circumstances present?*

*GA: Complete this statement. My self defeating behavior is \_\_\_\_\_. In the future I will \_\_\_\_\_.*

### III. DAVID'S IMAGINATION: EMBODY THE WORSHIPPING SPIRIT!

A. Where you decide to look for help when you are in trouble or in need reveals your core identity. When David was in need he lifted his eyes to the sanctuary. When you are spiritually dry and thirsty where do you turn for refreshment? God will often use the dry seasons to breakdown fleshly dependencies in order to draw you to himself. God is desiring you to draw near to him. If you are in a dry season revelation is on its way if you just lift up your eyes to the sanctuary.

*GA: Name the first person you call when you find yourself in trouble?*

*GQ: How have you seen dry seasons give way to fruitful ones?*

B. David eyes were filled with the power and glory of God, as a result his praise and worship overflowed from his lips and hands causing his mouth to be filled with joy and exuberance. David's imagination [seeing in the spirit] was informed with the power and glory of God which satisfied his soul.

*GA: Share a recent vision you have had during prayer of worship recently which encouraged you.*

C. A key to overflow is not quenching the Spirit of God, but being quenched by the Spirit of God. When we are dry and thirsty God himself is the only one who can satisfy; for his lovingkindness is better than life!

*GQ: What does it mean to you to have the Spirit of God quench you?*

D. Quiet meditation upon the Lord in the night hours does much to ignite the divine imagination. Time spent in quiet meditation trains the soul in dependency. Meditation realigns us in proper relationship to our Master.

*Psalm 63:6-8 When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches, For You have been my help, And in the shadow of Your wings I sing for joy. My soul clings to You; Your right hand upholds me.*

*GA: Pair up and share how you meditate upon the Lord.*

### IV. CONNECT WITH GOD AND HIS PEOPLE!

A. Rally the troops! When you connect [align] with God in his purposes the favor of God will be in operation which will bring you victory. A byproduct of victory will connect the hearts of others towards God

and one another giving rise to confidence to overcome fear and take action. The result is an increased strength of the community. [See 1 Samuel 17-David and Goliath]

B. Celebration and remembrance. When David and the armies came back from fierce battles they often paraded through the streets with shouts of singing and dancing before the Lord. Recounting and retelling the stories of what God has done binds the community together and allows everyone to share in the victory. Tell your stories [living histories] within community so that all may be encouraged by what the living God is doing and has done.

1. Celebrate all victories. When David moved the ark of the covenant from Obed's house to Jerusalem [See 1 Chronicles 15] there was also a great parade with shouts of singing, and dancing. David danced before the Lord openly in public without shame. Our celebration is to draw attention of the community to God's greatness. Celebration takes over the atmosphere, changes the environment, shapes attitudes, builds values, and establishes divine order.

*GQ: Share some creative ways your cell group can connect with other brothers and sisters at TGIV?*