

This is Life Lesson 3 Handout

The first thing that I learned on this trip is that God is a spring of water in the midst of the desert. These are not my words they are actually the words of a friend who was on the trip with me. Here is the back-story.

Going into the trip I felt so confused about life. I don't know what I want to do after college, I don't know exactly what God wants from me in my life, I have felt far from God, and I have felt like I have been stuck in a desert of confusion. Anyone been there before?

Yeah probably all of us have felt this way. The first few days of the trip were so rough for me because every site we would see the other members of our group would continually tell me that God spoke to them or revealed something amazing to them. I became annoyed because I was begging God to sort out my confusion yet He was not showing up. He wasn't speaking to me and I was getting really frustrated.

In between visiting the Holy Land sites some of the students would share a devotional with the group. I remember feeling extra frustrated one day when my friend Trevor got up to speak. We were in the middle of the desert when he started speaking. He discussed Psalm 63 and how David was in the desert and He cried out to God "God my God I earnestly seek you, you are my strength."

Trevor talked about how the desert is so hot and that there is not water. He related this to our lives and how there are many times where we are confused, upset, doubting, depressed, and angry and those are the desert times in our life.

But we always have to remember that Jesus is a spring of water in the desert.

As I heard him say that I looked out the window into the desert and pictured Jesus in the distance with cups of water for me. I realized that even in this time of doubt and confusion He is waiting for me. He is teaching me patience and preparing me for the day I meet Him at the spring and the day He reveals to me what He has for my life.

It is crazy the peace that you feel when you realize that even in the desert He is there and He is preparing you for the right time to give you what you are asking for.

1 Samuel 18

1 After David had finished talking with Saul, Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself.

2 From that day Saul kept David with him and did not let him return to his father's house.

5 Whatever Saul sent him to do, David did it so successfully that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the people, and Saul's officers as well.

20 Now Saul's daughter Michal was in love with David, and when they told Saul about it, he was pleased.

21 "I will give her to him," he thought, "so that she may be a snare to him and so that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." So Saul said to David, "Now you have a second opportunity to become my son-in-law."

1 Samuel 18:6 When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with tambourines and lutes.

7 As they danced, they sang: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands."

8 Saul was very angry; this refrain galled him. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?"

9 And from that time on Saul kept a jealous eye on David.

10 The next day an evil spirit from God came forcefully upon Saul. He was prophesying in his house, while David was playing the harp, as he usually did. Saul had a spear in his hand

11 and he hurled it, saying to himself, "I'll pin David to the wall." But David eluded him twice.

12 Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with David but had left Saul.

Exodus 33:12–15 (AMP)

14 And the Lord said, My Presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.

15 And Moses said to the Lord, If Your Presence does not go with me, do not carry us up from here!

"I dreamed that God took a vacation He did not say where He would go

He just left us to go on a journey and where He went I'm not sure that I know

He wearied and tired of much praying and listening to every weak plea.

Two weeks were just what he'd been needing away from the world & me.

Just then I was faced with a crisis – my heart was in deep despair,

**My preacher, my friend, nor my neighbors could help with answers to prayer
Oh how I longed for His presence, the touch of his soothing calm hand
To feel he was there close beside me, and to know that He'd understand.**

John 14:16–17 (AMP)

16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever—

17 The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you.

ANDY STANLEY - We are least aware of what is most constant

10 Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he slipped away, so that Saul struck the spear into the wall. Then David fled and escaped that night.

11 Saul sent messengers that night to David's house to watch him, that he might kill him in the morning. But Michal, David's wife, told him, If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed.

12 So Michal let David down through the window, and he fled and escaped.

13 And Michal took the teraph (household good luck image) and laid it in the bed, put a pillow of goats' hair at its head, and covered it with a bedspread.

14 And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, He is sick.

15 Then Saul sent the messengers again to see David, saying, bring him up to me in the bed, that I may slay him.

16 And when the messengers came in, behold, there was an image in the bed, with a pillow of goats' hair at its head.

17 Saul said to Michal, why have you deceived me so and sent away my enemy so that he has escaped? Michal answered Saul, He said to me, Let me go. Why should I kill you?

1 Samuel 20:42 And Jonathan told David, Go in peace, forasmuch as we have sworn to each other in the name of the Lord, saying, The Lord shall be between me and you, and between my descendants and yours forever. And Jonathan arose and departed into the city.

1 Samuel 19:18 So David fled and escaped and came to Samuel at Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth.

1 Samuel 20:1 (AMP)

1 DAVID FLED from Naioth in Ramah and came and said to Jonathan, What have I done? Of what am I guilty? What is my sin before your father, that he seeks my life?