

Pursue! Overtake! Recover All!

*From Dorothy Caldwell-Chaplain with the WNBA’s Chicago Sky*

**I Samuel 30:1-19**

Have you ever had anything STOLEN from you? How did you feel? VIOLATED? BETRAYED? ANGRY? HURT? HELPLESS?

All of us have suffered loss or some type of violation at some point in our lives. It’s not a matter of if it will happen, it’s a matter of when. And whether it was something small or big, it can leave us feeling violated, helpless, and even, hopeless. The word of God warns us, that as believers, we have a real enemy whose sole purpose is to steal and destroy any, and all, that is good in our lives: “The thief [the Enemy] comes only to STEAL, KILL, and DESTROY”, John 10:10. However, did you also know that the word of says that we can RECOVER ALL that is stolen.

In I Samuel 30 we find a great story of King David and his mighty warriors at a place called Ziklag. King David and his men had been off to war and returned to find that their camp had been invaded by the enemy. All the wives and children had been abducted and taken off to another land by the enemy. CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT? What would YOU DO?! How would or how have you handled that?

King David and his men were hurt, angry and looking for answers. Thankfully King David, a man after God’s own heart, brought hope and restoration to all. And the same can be true for us, if we heed the wisdom of King David.

Here are THREE THINGS that we can learn from King David:

**1) KEEP YOUR EMOTIONS IN CHECK –** Don’t allow your emotions to dictate your actions “David was now in great danger because all his men were very bitter about losing their sons and daughters, and they began to talk of stoning him. But David found strength in the Lord His God” ( I Sam 30:6)

**2) DON’T TRIP....INSTEAD TAKE TIME TO PRAY!** “Then David said to Abiathar the priest, the son of Ahimelek, “Bring me the ephod.” Abiathar brought it to him, 8 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.” (I Sam 30:7- 8a)

**3) REMEMBER, THAT GOD HAS THE LAST WORD!** “Pursue them,” he answered. “You will certainly overtake them and recover all.”, (I Sam 30: 8)

The enemy comes to steal our joy, our peace, our passion for Jesus, our substance, our finances, our children, our marriages, BUT we can be thankful that it doesn’t end there. When he does…remember, to get your EMOTIONS in CHECK, take time to PRAY, and know that GOD HAS THE LAST WORD. Then PURSUE, OVERTAKE, and RECOVER ALL! Amen.