

Week of October 21, 2018

<u>This Week's Focus</u>: Jesus Christ is the highly exalted Son of God who died on the cross to redeem sinners, making sufficient atonement for sin by his humble obedience to God the Father.

This Week's Text: 2 Samuel 6

"Growing in the gospel means seeing more of God's holiness and more of my sin. And because of what Jesus has done for us on the cross, we need not fear seeing God as he really is or admitting how broken we really are. Our hope is not in our own goodness, nor in the vain expectation that God will compromise his standards and 'grade on a curve.' Rather, we rest in Jesus as our perfect Redeemer—the One who is 'our righteousness, holiness and redemption.'" **The Gospel-Centered Life** by Robert Thune and Will Walker

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What has the Holy Spirit impressed on your heart and mind from this week's sermon/text? What have you learned more clearly about yourself, God, and the mission of God?
- What was the "ark of God, which is called by the name of hosts who sits on the throne of the cherubim" (Exodus 25:10-22)? Why was it important to David that it be transported to Jerusalem (1 Chronicles 13:1-3)?
- What grave error did Uzzah (and all those with him) make that kindled the anger of God (Numbers 4:15, 7:9)? How are we like Uzzah? What does this display of swift judgment along with the rest of Scripture reveal to us about God, His attitude toward sin, and the inevitable consequence of sin? Is there unconfessed sin in your life that you have justified or dismissed as simply "minor"?
- Discuss how Jesus is the only hope for sinners. How does growing in the gospel produce in us a
 greater awareness of God's holiness, our sinfulness, and appreciation for God's amazing
 grace?
- How did David respond when he heard that the "Lord had broken out against Uzzah" (verses 8-9)? How do you respond when God chooses to exact swift judgement toward sin? Conversely, how do you respond when God chooses to bestow mercy and grace instead of swift judgement?

- How do we know that David repented of his sin (verses 12-15, 1 Chronicles 15:2)? When you sin, are you quick to acknowledge, confess, and repent? Do you regularly meditate on God's word and allow it to shape your understanding of God as well as how we approach and worship Him? How does the gospel motivate us to grateful obedience to God's word?
- What is significant about David dancing in worship while wearing a linen ephod? Why are both attitude and action essential and inseparable elements of worship? During corporate worship, why is it important that we carefully balance between passionate expression and orderliness (1 Corinthians 14:26-39)? What should be the primary purpose behind our passionate expressions of worship?
- Why did Michal scorn David for his worship? How does David's treatment by and response to
 Michal point to the gospel of Jesus Christ (Isaiah 53:3, Philippians 2:5-11)? How does this
 passage encourage you to demonstrate and declare the gospel to your family, your
 community, and your spheres of influence?