

Understanding God's 'hesed' Steadfast Love

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1 Samuel 20:1-17

Oak Community Church (PCA)

Why We Study the OT

- Believers are to be strong... Rom 15:1-3 to serve...
- Word: gives us endurance, encouragement & hope^{Rom15:4-6}

David's Need for Endurance

- David is fleeing¹, he's been fleeing^{19:2,10,11,12,18}
- Flight tends to wear a person out, David turned to Jonathan
- Asked good question: *what have I done?*¹
- Jonathan knew that & interceded^{19:1-5} for David
- Jonathan is 'naive' and loves his father
- David schools Jonathan, Jonathan trusts David⁴ and agrees

David Lays Out a Challenge

- a test of their covenant friendship⁵⁻⁷
- David makes a covenant appeal⁸ for *hesed love - kindly*
- More than just two friends asking for a favor
- *Hesed* - speaks of a committed love, a steadfast love that looks beyond the circumstances and holds true to the commitment of the relationship
- David & Jonathan souls were knit by God^{18:1,3} same values!
- A good marriage is built with *hesed* love - truth & commitment
- Truth is foundation of *hesed* - if guilt, kill me⁸
- Psalm 13 - David understood *hesed*
 - 1-4 : despair, trouble, no hope
 - 5 : I have trusted in your steadfast *hesed* love
- *hesed* is undeserved, based upon commitment

Exodus shows God abounds in *hesed* love - His character

- God rescues from Egypt parts Red Sea^{14:22}, destroys enemies^{14:28}
- Provides water & reminds them^{15:26}, manna^{16:4}, water^{17:7}
- Brings to Sinai to give law, people say Moses delayed^{32:1}
- How quickly the people turn to idols^{32:1}
- God is angry, Moses intercedes, appeals to God's character^{34:1}
- God declares His character^{34:6-9} *abounding in hesed love*
- God's *hesed* love pursues us when we dance around golden calves
- NT: Eph 2:4-6 great love... by grace... Undeserved love!

David & Jonathan pictures *hesed* love

- *Hesed* - 1st used Gen 19:9 by Lot
- Lot didn't deserve God's grace and mercy and love
- Neither do you! BUT God's *hesed* love is by grace^{Eph2:8-9}
- God's covenant love will not let you go!
- Jonathan needed David's *hesed* love^{20:13-14}
- Psalm 51 - David appealed to God's *hesed* love after sin^{2Sam11}
- Believer - sinner - Run to God and claim His *hesed* love¹