

- I. ONE THING—The One Thing that I'd like to take away from today's class and believe God to accomplish in my life is:

II. MEDITATION

- A. Review your class notes from Tuesday.

- Take some time to think about the main ideas of the lesson. Find the audio message on our website under the Resources tab. ([www.DivineDesignDiscipleship.com](http://www.DivineDesignDiscipleship.com)).
- Which of the scriptures referenced were particularly meaningful to you? Write out those verses below and spend some time studying them this week.

- B. Rewrite your One Thing into a prayer, expressing your heart's desire for God to make this truth become your experience.

- C. Sing about what you're learning. It's helpful in connecting emotionally to the truth.

- III. Listen to the songs from this week's playlist to aid you in taking today's principles from your head to your heart.

This playlist and our master playlist for our "In the Vault" series can be found on our Divine Design Discipleship YouTube channel. (Be sure to subscribe to our channel!) Our 2021 playlist is also available on Spotify. See the handout provided with your notebook for instructions on how to access these resources.

#### IV. PRINCIPLES

These principles will explore what God says in His Word about living a victorious life in Him. Let's use them to know God more deeply and enrich our Vaults with His truth:

##### A. ROAD

- David had a long, hard road between his days shepherding the sheep in the Judean wilderness and the fulfillment of God's promise of being Israel's next king.
- His call at age 15 was authenticated when the Holy Spirit came upon him: 1 Sam 16:13--Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward.
- Early on, David found favor with the current king Saul and soon went on to defeat Goliath. (1 Sam 16-17) This served as further confirmation of his being God's man.
- Shortly thereafter, however, he encountered a long series of hardships that landed him back in the wilderness, hiding in caves from the jealous Saul.
- His journey included many of the same things that we see in the life of Jesus – being wildly popular at times but also misunderstood often and rejected by those in power.
- Most believers can identify with the difficult and unpredictable road that is part of the life of the Lord's people: Mt 7:14 EXB—The gate is small and narrow [or difficult; hard] that leads to true life.
- One of the reasons God gives us Scripture is to help us see that we are not alone and that He has not abandoned us in the difficult journey of life: Rom 15:4 JBP-- For all those words which were written long ago are meant to teach us today; that when we read in the scriptures of the endurance of men and of all the help that God gave them in those days, we may be encouraged to go on hoping in our own time.
- We can be encouraged by the way we see God keep His promises to His people: Num 23:19 NLT-- God is not a man, so he does not lie. He is not human, so he does not change his mind. Has he ever spoken and failed to act? Has he ever promised and not carried it through?
- Despite the many heartaches and setbacks, David at last became king over all of Israel: 2 Sam 5:1-12 NLT-- Then all the tribes of Israel went to David at Hebron and told him, "We are your own flesh and blood. <sup>2</sup> In the past, when Saul was our king, you were the one who really led the forces of Israel. And the Lord told you, 'You will be the shepherd of my people Israel. You will be Israel's leader.'"<sup>3</sup> So there at Hebron, King David made a covenant before the Lord with all the elders of Israel. And they anointed him king of Israel.<sup>4</sup> David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years in all. <sup>5</sup> He had reigned over Judah from Hebron for seven years and six months, and from Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah for thirty-three years.<sup>6</sup> David then led his men to Jerusalem to fight against the Jebusites, the original inhabitants of the land who were living there. The Jebusites taunted David, saying, "You'll never get in here! Even the blind and lame could keep you out!" For the Jebusites thought they were safe. <sup>7</sup> But David captured the fortress of Zion, which is now called the City of David.<sup>8</sup> On the day of the attack, David said to his troops, "I hate those 'lame' and 'blind' Jebusites. Whoever attacks them should strike by going into the city through the water tunnel." That is the origin of the saying, "The blind and the lame may not enter the house."<sup>9</sup> So David made the fortress his home, and he called it the City of David. He extended the city, starting at the supporting terraces and working inward.<sup>10</sup> And David became more and more powerful, because the Lord God of Heaven's Armies was with him.<sup>11</sup> Then King Hiram of Tyre sent messengers to David, along with cedar timber and carpenters and stonemasons, and they built David a

palace.<sup>12</sup> And David realized that the Lord had confirmed him as king over Israel and had blessed his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel.

- Fifteen years after Samuel anointed David, Israel was united under their new king. (He had been anointed as king over the 2 tribes of Judah 7 years before. (v. 5))
- God used this pathway and these years to prepare David for effective service and position him for victories in the Kingdom. His Vault was tested and enriched.
- That is the Lord's way with His children: Lam 3:23-27 NLT-- Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.<sup>24</sup> I say to myself, "The Lord is my inheritance; therefore, I will hope in him!"<sup>25</sup> The Lord is good to those who depend on him, to those who search for him.<sup>26</sup> So it is good to wait quietly for salvation from the Lord.<sup>27</sup> And it is good for people to submit at an early age to the yoke of his discipline
- The Father put His very own Son on the same difficult road: Heb 2:10-11 AMP-- For it was an act worthy [of God] and fitting [to the divine nature] that He, for Whose sake and by Whom all things have their existence, in bringing many sons into glory, should make the Pioneer of their salvation perfect [should bring to maturity the human experience necessary to be perfectly equipped for His office as High Priest] through suffering.<sup>11</sup> For both He Who sanctifies [making men holy] and those who are sanctified all have one [Father]. For this reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren.
- LISTENING EXERCISE: *Name the areas of your life where the pathway to God's promises is proving difficult?*

*Does it encourage you to know that your hardships on the journey are normal and even beneficial to you in the long term?*

*Can you see some of the benefits already accruing to your Vault in this process?*

*Will you yield to God's way and let it do its work?*

- Insights:

## B. ROLE

- David was chosen to shepherd the people because his heart was aligned with the heart of the Lord. (1 Sam 13:14) God's word and praises had filled his Vault for years!
- David's greatest role was to provide a picture of our true King Jesus.
- All the tribes of Israel must unite for it to be an accurate reflection of the Kingdom of God. (Dt 17:15) Many varied parts that form Christ's Body are meant to be function in unity: 1 Cor 12:12-13 NLT-- The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. <sup>13</sup>Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.
- The same men with David in the wilderness years are the men that will serve alongside him in his kingdom. (v. 6) They weren't pedigreed but they were proven.
- Though David's role is to take the lead, he has wisely chosen to associate closely with people he can trust and rely on for support: Eph 4:16 NLT-- He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.
- David's first initiative was taking personal responsibility to right a longstanding wrong. Since Abraham's day, Israel was promised the Jebusites' land. (Gen 22:18)
- When the Hebrew people went into the Promised Land, they did win 31 successive victories, but they didn't come close to possessing their entire inheritance. *Identify?*
- Every believer has ground where the enemy has camped out so long that it seems normal. We see this illustrated in Jerusalem: Judges 1:21 NLT-- The tribe of Benjamin, however, failed to drive out the Jebusites, who were living in Jerusalem. So to this day the Jebusites live in Jerusalem among the people of Benjamin.
- David counted on the promises of the Lord to give this land to His people. Therefore he tackled this enemy that had been impossible to remove to date.
- The Lord is not impatient and the enemies of His people don't intimidate him! David is credited (Acts 4:24-26) with writing about His perspective: Ps 2:2-6 (selected) NLT-- The kings of the earth prepare for battle; the rulers plot together against the Lord and against his anointed one...<sup>4</sup> But the one who rules in heaven laughs. The Lord scoffs at them...<sup>6</sup> For the Lord declares, "I have placed my chosen king on the throne in Jerusalem, on my holy mountain."
- David trusted God to do what only He can do. That's our only valid option because there is no way to have consistent victory against the enemy in our own strength.
- Insights:

### C. RECOGNITION

- David recognized the importance of Jerusalem. Its first mention in Scripture is when young David went there to put the head of Goliath on display. (1 Sam 17:54)
- Immediately after his installation as king, he makes Jerusalem the new capital city. He then moves to take back this mountaintop stronghold out of enemy hands. (v.10)
- David would bank on the principle that had been in His Vault for years – “the battle is the Lords”: 1 Sam 17:47-- Then all this assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear; for the battle *is* the Lord’s, and He will give you into our hands
- He occupied this spot in the Promised Land (v. 9) and made it his home. God also refers to Jerusalem as His home (authorship uncertain): Ps 130: 13-18 NLT—The Lord has chosen Jerusalem; he has desired it for his home. <sup>14</sup>“This is my resting place forever,” he said. “I will live here, for this is the home I desired. <sup>15</sup>I will bless this city and make it prosperous; I will satisfy its poor with food. <sup>16</sup>I will clothe its priests with godliness; its faithful servants will sing for joy. <sup>17</sup>Here I will increase the power of David; my anointed one will be a light for my people. <sup>18</sup>I will clothe his enemies with shame, but he will be a glorious king.”
- Jerusalem made a beautiful home (Ps 48:2), but is nothing in comparison with the New Jerusalem that awaits us all at the end of our earthly journey: Rev 21:2-5 NLT-- I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup>I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.” <sup>5</sup>And the one sitting on the throne said, “Look, I am making everything new!”
- In a spiritual sense, the people of God are referred to as “Zion,” because our hearts (Vaults) are the place where the Lord lives and reigns:
  - Jn 14:23-- If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.
  - 1 Cor 3:16-- Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?
- David recognized his purposes of serving the people and bringing glory to God. This heart attitude positions us for growth, promotion, and victory in the Kingdom:
  - Ps 34:15-- The eyes of the Lord *are* on the righteous, and His ears *are open* to their cry.
  - Ps 37:37-40-- Mark the blameless *man*, and observe the upright; for the future of *that* man *is* peace. But the transgressors shall be destroyed together; the future of the wicked shall be cut off. But the salvation of the righteous *is* from the Lord; *He is* their strength in the time of trouble. And the Lord shall help them and deliver them; He shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in Him.
- The Lord desires for us to know Him and His saving power. He clearly wants us to recognize the truth that He is the One who brings victory:
  - Is 41:20 NLT-- I am doing this so all who see this miracle will understand what it means— that it is the LORD who has done this, the Holy One of Israel who created it.
  - Is 43:23 AMP-- Shout for joy, O heavens, for the LORD has done it! Shout in triumph, you depths of the earth; Break forth into jubilant rejoicing, you mountains, O forest, and every tree in it! For the LORD has redeemed Jacob, And He shows His glory in Israel.
  - Ps 44:1-8 NLT-- O God, we have heard it with our own ears—our ancestors have told us of all you did in their day, in days long ago: You drove out the pagan nations by your power and gave all the land to our ancestors. You crushed their enemies and set our ancestors free. They did not conquer the land with their swords; it was not their own strong arm that gave them victory. It was your right hand and strong arm and the

blinding light from your face that helped them, for you loved them. You are my King and my God. You command victories for Israel. Only by your power can we push back our enemies; only in your name can we trample our foes. I do not trust in my bow; I do not count on my sword to save me. You are the one who gives us victory over our enemies; you disgrace those who hate us. O God, we give glory to you all day long and constantly praise your name.

- God increased David's power (v. 12) as a means to bless His people. He was able to entrust more to David because he was submitted to the Lord: Jn 3:30 NLT-- He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less.
- Insights:

## II. CONTINUE TO PRACTICE

- Revisit the Listening Exercises from page 3 of this lesson. Include the following:  
*Lord, reveal areas of resistance or resentment that may have crept into my Vault:*
- Reflect on your own commitment to God's purposes for your life. *How willing are you to let your fleshly ways decrease so that Christ might increase?*
- Discover secret riches as you meditate on and appropriate God's many promises.
- Refer to the handout "Tools & Techniques: Spiritual Blessings." The truths and biblical references there are part of your inheritance. Target them for your Vault!
- Continue to grow in your personal knowledge of God by calling on His names. The handout "Tools & Techniques: Names of God" can serve as a resource for you.
- *Where in your life are you withholding from God your first fruits? Will you give to Him whatever it may be for the sake of greater depth of relationship with Him?*
- Pray for greater awareness of God's presence with you throughout your days. Ask the Lord to keep you focused on knowing Him in a relational way.
- Use "Tools & Techniques: I Feel But God Says" to process your feelings, fears or unbelief. Ask God to address them and begin to replace them with His truth.
- Study "Tools & Techniques: Listening to God" for practical help and Scriptural support in your pursuit of making God's truth your own.
- Keep a record of what you discover in your notebook or spiritual journal. Come back next week ready to share what you experienced!