

# Small Group Discussion Guide

For the week of October 23 - 29, 2022

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## Main Thought and Scriptures:

God was faithful in fulfilling His promise to David and made him king after Saul died in battle. David experienced another defining moment when he attempted to bring the Ark of the Covenant (a holy artifact that housed the presence of God on Earth) into Jerusalem. David made it a practice to always inquire of the Lord before doing anything. This time, he did not. Instead of seeking God for wisdom and following God's strict instructions on how to transport the Ark, David did it his own way.

*"And when they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah put out his hand to the Ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. <sup>7</sup>And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Uzzah, and God struck him down there because of his error, and he died there beside the Ark of God. <sup>8</sup>And David was angry because the Lord had broken out against Uzzah. And that place is called Perez-uzzah to this day. <sup>9</sup>And David was afraid of the Lord that day, and he said, 'How can the ark of the Lord come to me?' <sup>10</sup>So David was not willing to take the Ark of the Lord into the city of David. But David took it aside to the house of Obed-edom the Gittite. <sup>11</sup>And the Ark of the Lord remained in the house of Obed-edom the Gittite three months, and the Lord blessed Obed-edom and all his household." (2 Samuel 6:6-11 ESV)*

## 1. In our success, we must continue to revere the Word of God and the presence of God.

- Numbers 4:15 and 7:9 made it clear that the Ark could only be transported on the shoulders of the priests. Instead of following these instructions, David put the Ark in a cart pulled by animals.
- When success comes, we tend to disregard the Word and presence of God as David did.

## 2. When we disregard the Word and the presence of God in our lives, we will experience consequences.

- When Uzzah, who was not a priest, touched the Ark, he died. It was a reminder that God is holy, and we must relate to Him as holy.
- Through this incident, David learned to revere the Word and presence of God, and so should we.

## 3. Thankfully, now through Christ, we are all "priests of God" and can confidently enter His presence.

*"As you come to him (Jesus), the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be **a holy priesthood**, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." (1 Peter 2:4-5 NIV)*

*“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. <sup>15</sup>For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. <sup>16</sup>Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” (Hebrews 4:14-16 NIV)*

- While we must continue to revere the Word and presence of God, Christians do so knowing that we are cleansed and forgiven through Christ, and can approach God with confidence.

### **Discussion Questions:**

*(Break into groups of 3-4 to discuss)*

- As you reflect on the weekend sermon, main thought, and scriptures above, what is the Lord highlighting to you and why?
- Share about a time you previously disregarded the Word of God. What happened, and what did you learn? Or share about a time you obeyed the Word of God in a situation. What happened, and what did you learn?
- How is the Lord currently challenging you to prioritize the Word and the presence of God? What challenges do you face in doing so? What practical steps will you take?

### **Prayer:**

*(Pair up and pray for one another)*

- Pray for one another to prioritize the Word and presence of God in our current situations.
- Pray for one unreached friend or family member you are reaching out to.

### **Seek Week - October 25-27**

For prayer points, fasting guidelines, and times & locations, scan the code below or go to [pearlside.org/seekweek](https://pearlside.org/seekweek)

