

ENCOURAGING YOURSELF

Introduction: There are times in life when all circumstances and people will seem to be _____ you. That is not the time to despair, but to _____ to the Lord (2 Tim. 4:16-18).

- I. _____ Over Trials (1 Sam. 30:1-6)
- A. Being in the wrong place can bring great _____ our way.
 - B. Losing _____ is the greatest test of one's character (i.e. Job).
 - C. Times of great loss will bring _____.
 - D. Life can completely change in one _____ (Pr. 27:1).
 - E. Many blame the _____ when things go wrong.
 - F. When everything is going wrong you must immediately turn yourself to the _____ (2 Tim. 4:16:17).
- II. _____ to God (1 Sam. 30:7-8)
- A. Immediately _____ the Lord's counsel when things are tough.
 - B. God will provide the _____ from His Word that only He can.
 - C. When we do things God's way we can have full assurance of _____ over the trial (Ro. 8:31).
- III. _____ Action (1 Sam. 30:9-31)
- A. There is a time for prayer, and there is a time for _____.
 - B. There are those who go, and there must be those who stay behind to support those who go—both are _____.
 - C. There are no coincidences in the life of a _____.
 - D. The enemies of God _____ ignorantly (1 Thess. 5:3; Mt. 24:37-39).
 - E. The Lord can bring back everything you may have _____ --and more (Joel 1:4; 2:25).
 - F. God will _____ those who stay behind to support those who go (Phil. 4:15-19).
 - G. It is important that we _____ any relationships that have been hurt from poor decisions we have made.
 - H. The stage is finally fully _____ for David to take the throne of Israel.

Conclusion: "He [David] knew there was no one to turn to for strength in such an overwhelming crisis except the LORD" (MacDonald).