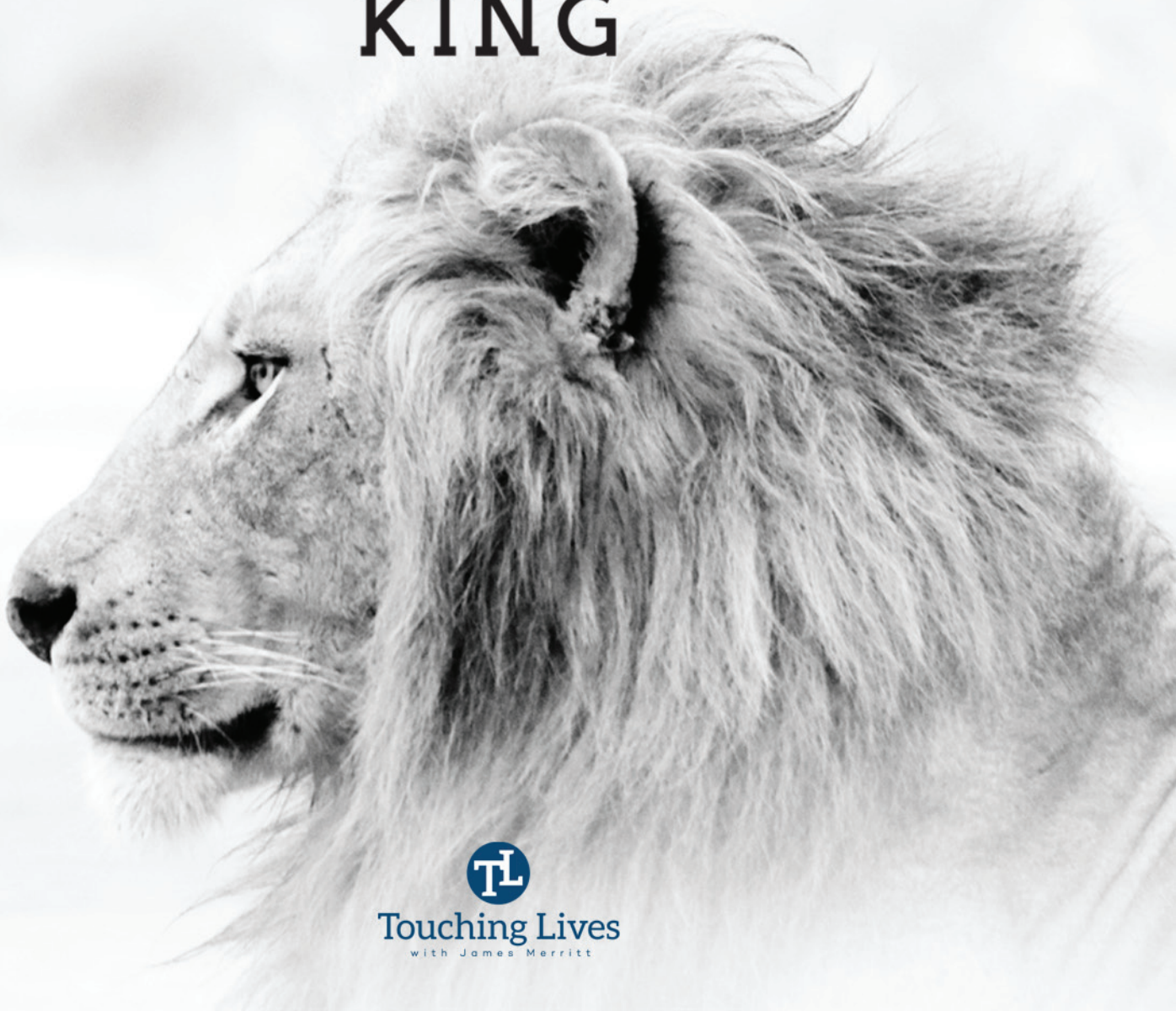




LIFE LESSONS
— FROM A —
KING



Touching Lives
with James Merritt


DAVID:
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Heartthrob

I Samuel 13:34; Acts 13:22

Would it surprise you to learn there has been more written about David than any other character in the entire Bible except Jesus? This typical, unassuming, not-so-special young man did not come from wealth, did not possess any unique characteristics, and did not enjoy the benefits of a learned profession. He was an average person with a below average job as a shepherd from a poor family. And yet, he would become a king because he truly sought God's own heart.

Three things that will help you seek God's heart:

1. Walk with God Faithfully
2. Wait on God Patiently
3. Witness to God Truthfully

While it may be true that no one reading this has ever seen Jesus or heard the audible voice of Jesus, it is most definitely true that believers in Jesus have seen enough in His creation, heard enough through His Word, and experienced enough of His love through His Spirit to be a person who seeks after God's own heart.

NOTES



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Giant Killers

I Samuel 17

The Valley of Elah is the scene of one of the most famous battles in the entire Bible. What makes this battle so interesting is not due to the vastness of the battle or the ferocity of the two armies facing each other but rather it is the fact that this battle was fought between two people—David and Goliath.

Like David, we all face giants at some point. Here are three things to remember when you are facing a giant:

1. Be Focused on God's Presence
2. Be Fearless in God's Power
3. Be Fervent for God's Praise

Key Takeaway: This entire story is not about a little shepherd boy who beat a huge giant. It is a story about GOD! The point of the battle between David and Goliath is this...there is a God who rescues, a God who will fight our battles for us, and a God who is bigger than any giant we will ever face.

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Your Best Friend

I Samuel 18:1-4

There are two things that are true for everyone...we all need to have the right kinds of friends and we all need to be the right kind of friend to others. In this life, we will make many acquaintances, but we won't make many true friends.

When you select your friends and when you strive to be a good friend, keep these things in mind:

1. Best Friends Give Selfless Love
2. Best Friends Give Steadfast Loyalty
3. Best Friends Give Spiritual Leadership

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Revenge Factor (Part 1)
I Samuel 24

Despite the triumphs of David, King Saul became filled with the poison of jealousy and sought to have his revenge by killing David. Saul hires elite soldiers to kill David, but he escapes just before they are to execute him while sleeping. Filled with rage, Saul sent his entire army after David, and yet God provides David with the unbelievable opportunity to kill Saul and end the whole ordeal. David must now decide to give in to revenge or to honor God by respecting His choice for King. David ultimately chooses the latter as he overcomes the urge to take his revenge and, in doing so, gives God the glory.

Here are three things David did that we must do to win the battle against revenge:

1. Honor the Principle of Integrity
2. Honor the Position of Authority
3. Honor the Power of Humility

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Revenge Factor (Part 2)

I Samuel 25

There are two things that tend to get people into trouble...their temper and their tongue. How many times have you said something you didn't really mean but you said it anyway out of pure anger? How many things do you wish you could take back? Truly, everyone has felt this way at one time or another. King David comes close to falling into what is known as the "revenge trap" but fights back against his temper and his tongue and puts his trust into God's capable hands.

When you are tempted to get even, take a breath and consider these three questions:

1. Who is Causing My Anger?
2. Who is Counseling My Anger?
3. Who is Controlling My Anger?

Key Takeaway: Don't take the low road—evil for good. Don't take the middle road—evil for evil. Always take the high road—good for evil—because that is where you will always find Jesus.

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A Seat at the Table

II Samuel 9

One of the greatest illustrations of grace in the entire Bible involves the story of a man with one of the worst names in the Bible. The man is named Mephibosheth, and despite his odd name, he finds himself in the middle of a story that paints a vivid picture of salvation. King David plays a role in the story as he paints a picture of the Savior. Mephibosheth, as you might have guessed, paints the picture of a sinner. And, throughout the whole story, God is ever-present as He colors the canvas with His remarkable grace.

As you watch the message, here are three things to consider as you ponder God's grace:

1. Because of Grace, God Approaches Me
2. Because of Grace, God Accepts Me
3. Because of Grace, God Adopts Me

NOTES


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Lyin' Eyes
II Samuel 11

When you ask someone about David, inevitably two stories involving two very different people come to mind—Goliath and Bathsheba. If you know anything about King David, you would truly understand how far he fell when he got involved with Bathsheba. In fact, he fell farther than perhaps any powerful figure in human history. His “lyin’ eyes” were his undoing. He lost the game of sin, and honestly, we all lose the game of sin, which is why we so desperately need a savior.

The next time you are tempted by sin, fight back using this formula:

1. Realize the Appeal of Sin
2. Refuse to Conceal Your Sin
3. Remember God Will Reveal Your Sin

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Aftermath
II Samuel 12

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Leave a Legacy
I Chronicles 28-29

As the runway of life begins to run out, everyone starts to ponder this question...What am I going to leave behind? The two most important things to consider, according to the Bible, are people and influence. Leaving a legacy is about the people you impact, not about the possessions you leave. Leaving a legacy is about the influence you leave, not about the inheritance. You may not be a king like David when you die, but you can definitely leave behind a legacy worthy of a king.

Here are two concepts to know as you build a lasting legacy:

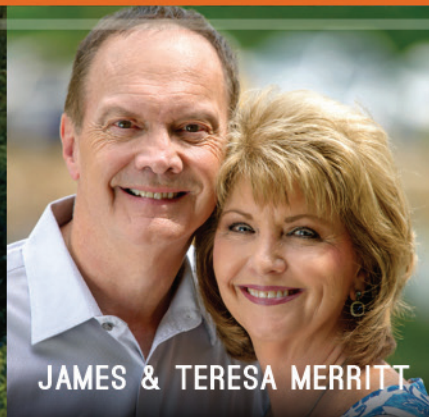
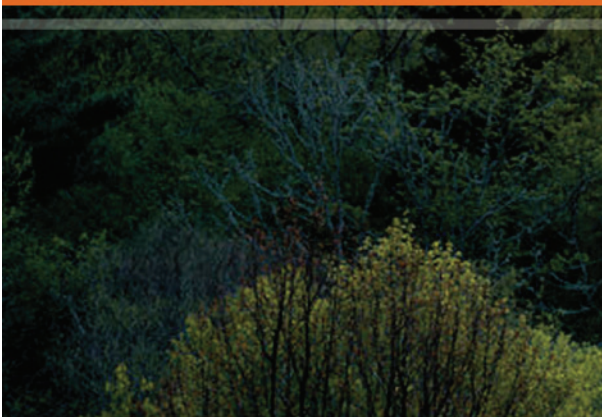
1. Our Legacy is Determined By Where We Lead Others
2. Our Legacy is Determined By What We Leave in Others

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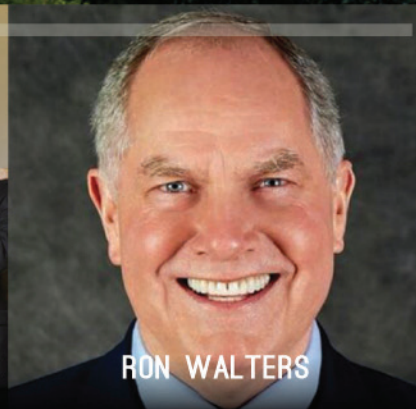
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