

Next Steps:

Read through the life of David in 1 Samuel 16 - 2 Samuel 24.

Reflect on how God worked in and through David... his ups and downs... his patience... his humility... his arrogance... his faith.

Spend some time examining where you are on this long and winding road called life. Write down some details about when your journey began... not just physically, but more importantly, spiritually.

What was your "spiritual" starting point? When did you start to follow God? Why did you decide to start following God?

Think about a few of the critical times in you life when you had to make the choice to go your own way or to continue to follow God... despite the consequences.

Think about those times when you needed a new beginning... when you had made a mess of things. If you haven't done so already, confess your sin / your brokenness to God. Look at David's confession in Psalm 51. Rewrite this Psalm in your own words on a separate piece of paper. When you are done, write out the exact words of 1 John 1:9 over this "psalm of confession." Then tear up the paper and throw it away.

David wrote half of the book of Psalms, including this wonderful promise from Psalm 103:11-14.

"For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him; for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust."

Next Week: Next Sunday we will be taking a look at the life of Nehemiah to see how he discovered and lived into His purpose. You can find his story in the book that bears his name.