

LIFE Community Sermon Notes

*A Dangerous Dance***2 Samuel 6****The Ark Brought to Jerusalem**

1 David again brought together out of Israel chosen men, thirty thousand in all. 2 He and all his men set out from Baalah of Judah [a] to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the Name, [b] the name of the LORD Almighty, who is enthroned between the cherubim that are on the ark. 3 They set the ark of God on a new cart and brought it from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab, were guiding the new cart 4 with the ark of God on it, [c] and Ahio was walking in front of it. 5 David and the whole house of Israel were celebrating with all their might before the LORD, with songs [d] and with harps, lyres, tambourines, sistrums and cymbals.

6 When they came to the threshing floor of Nacon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God, because the oxen stumbled. 7 The LORD's anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down and he died there beside the ark of God.

8 Then David was angry because the LORD's wrath had broken out against Uzzah, and to this day that place is called Perez Uzzah. [e]

9 David was afraid of the LORD that day and said, "How can the ark of the LORD ever come to me?" 10 He was not willing to take the ark of the LORD to be with him in the City of David. Instead, he took it aside to the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite. 11 The ark of the LORD remained in the house of Obed-Edom the Gittite for three months, and the LORD blessed him and his entire household.

12 Now King David was told, "The LORD has blessed the household of Obed-Edom and everything he has, because of the ark of God." So David went down and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with rejoicing. 13 When those who were carrying the ark of the LORD had taken six steps, he sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf. 14 David, wearing a linen ephod, danced before the LORD with all his might, 15 while he and the entire house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouts and the sound of trumpets.

16 As the ark of the LORD was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD, she despised him in her heart.

17 They brought the ark of the LORD and set it in its place inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings [f] before the LORD. 18 After he had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD Almighty. 19 Then he gave a loaf of bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins to each person in the whole crowd of Israelites, both men and women. And all the people went to their homes.

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20 When David returned home to bless his household, Michal daughter of Saul came out to meet him and said, "How the king of Israel has distinguished himself today, disrobing in the sight of the slave girls of his servants as any vulgar fellow would!"

21 David said to Michal, "It was before the LORD, who chose me rather than your father or anyone from his house when he appointed me ruler over the LORD's people Israel—I will celebrate before the LORD.

22 I will become even more undignified than this, and I will be humiliated in my own eyes. But by these slave girls you spoke of, I will be held in honor."

23 And Michal daughter of Saul had no children to the day of her death.

LIFE Community Sermon Notes

Sunday, May 25

Big Idea: Hearts are formed when we worship God with reverence and abandon.

Key Verse: 2 Samuel 6:21c
“...I will celebrate before the LORD.”

Opening Question: What is the most significant thing that has happened to you in the past week?

Questions in **bold** below are suggested focus questions. Sections in *italics* and/or parenthesis are for the leaders. Read the passage.

Discussion Questions:

Worship is best described as the life you live before God. Rather than an act, or a specific time or place it should be our entire lives, lived before God. One of David’s contributions as king, if not the major contribution, was his focus on worshipping God. As Bryan said in the message, David restored the worship of the LORD as central to the Israelites. In fact, it is his desire to place God at the center of his life, to worship the LORD only, that makes David a man after God’s own heart. In our passage we will look at worshipping the LORD with reverence and abandon, keeping in mind that worship is a lifestyle rather than an act, a matter of the heart rather than a matter of songs.

1. Think about the way you worship God in your life. Would you say it is mostly reverence or abandon? Which do you find easiest?
2. **Our passage depicts two approaches to worship: one negative, one positive. Which is the negative approach to worship? Which is the positive?** (*Leaders: this question is not designed to show reverent worship as negative and abandon worship as positive. Rather it is to learn that irreverent worship is wrong*)
3. How did David and Uzzah show irreverence for God?
4. What are the differences between the first trip of the ark and the second? What can you learn from this?
5. **We can learn several principles from 2 Samuel 6 about worshipping the LORD. List some.** (*Leaders can reflect on what Bryan shared: we worship with reverence, we worship with abandon, we make worship of the LORD central to our lives. But feel free to allow others to draw additional principles from this passage. Ask them to tell you where in the passage they see these principles at work*).
6. **Now think about these principles and your own worship life. Are they true in your life? If so, how? If not, how not? How can you bring the differences in your own life closer to the principles of worship you have learnt from this passage?**
7. **Bryan challenged us all with some questions to consider, so let’s consider them:**
 - A) **On a scale with one side being center and the other side being periphery, where is God in your life these days?**
 - B) **Is Christ King over everything or just one of the many influences in your life?**
8. **What will you do differently this week to make the LORD, and worship of Him, more central in your life?**

Leader’s Notes

1. *Bryan shared a dynamic illustration with us about how everyday events can become transformational moments. They represented a spiral or flywheel with four movements: 1) Pay Attention; 2) Turn Toward God; 3) Step Forward in Faith; 4) Rise to a New Level.*