

DAVID | OVERWHELMED

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

- Check in with each other
- On a scale of 1-10 (1 = low) how overwhelmed are you right now.
- Why or why not?
- What does an overwhelming moment look like to you? How do you tend to respond?
- Read the text below out loud and make a few observations.

DAVID'S EXTERNAL CHALLENGE:

¹⁰ And David rose and fled that day from Saul and went to Achish the king of Gath.¹¹ And the servants of Achish said to him, "Is not this David the king of the land? Did they not sing to one another of him in dances. 'Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands?'"¹² And David took these words to heart and was much afraid of Achish the king of Gath.¹³ So he changed his behavior before them and pretended to be insane in their hands and made marks on the doors of the gate and let his spittle run down his beard.¹⁴ Then Achish said to his servants, "Behold, you see the man is mad. Why then have you brought him to me?"¹⁵ Do I lack madmen, that you have brought this fellow to behave as a madman in my presence? Shall this fellow come into my house?"

1 SAMUEL 21:10-15

DAVID'S INNER VOICE:

In this moment David wrote this Psalm. Read the Psalm and make a very observations and contrasts between the first set of verses and this one.

¹ Be gracious to me, O God, for man tramples on me; all day long an attacker oppresses me; ² my enemies trample on me all day long, for many attack me proudly. ³ When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. ⁴ In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me? ⁵ All day long they injure my cause; all their thoughts are against me for evil. ⁶ They stir up strife, they lurk; they watch my steps, as they have waited for my life. ⁷ For their crime will they escape? In wrath cast down the peoples, O God!

PSALM 56:1-7

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION:

- Why do we see two different men here?
- What do you learn about David from the second text you do not see in the first?
- Why do you think David acts "insane" in the first text?
- When you see the "real" David how does this inform your view of David's masculinity?