

## Sermon Discussion Questions

September 19, 2021

Sermon Title: "Renewed Allegiance to Jesus Together" | 1 Chronicles 12

Background note from the ESV Study Bible:

12:1–22 Before his reign in Hebron, David took refuge from Saul in various strongholds in the Judean desert, then in Ziklag for 16 months, under the protection of the Philistine king Achish (1 Sam. 27:6). This section provides a literary flashback to those days and places, which are grouped within the larger unit of 1 Chron. 11:1–12:40 under the theme of growing support for David from every tribe of Israel. The catchword "help" connects this section, denoting personal commitment to and partnership with David in his task (vv. 1, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22). More specifically, "help" here signifies military support and originates in God's own support for David (v. 18).

Point 1 – Allegiance to Jesus is the *starting point* for re-gathering His people

1. Under the pandemic, do you resonate a bit with the Philistines winning, the Israelites fleeing and everything in disarray?
2. If things looked dark for King David, but then he was able to secure Jerusalem, how important is it that Jesus secured a much greater victory for the heavenly Jerusalem (Hebrews 12, Revelation 21)?
3. How can you explain that even demons can give the "Sunday school answer" of Jesus' identity? (Luke 4:34, James 2:19)

Point 2 – Allegiance to Jesus whenever and however He is (v. 8-18)

4. V. 18 David's men said, "We are yours, O David, and with you, O son of Jesse!" What does a strong Jesus-focused allegiance look like in our day?
5. There were many "mighty men" in this chapter. Why do we shrink back from attempting to be "mighty men" and "mighty women" in allegiance to Jesus today?
6. If David found help in Ziklag among the Philistines, is it possible that we are missing Jesus who is present among our "enemies?" How might Jesus be dwelling with the church in Cuba or Russia, for example? What could we learn from them and from this?
7. The historic Church does have a long line of abuses, some known and many unknown. Why can we still align ourselves with Jesus' people in the church even despite the sins of the past? (Think about the marred history of Jesus' lineage in David's line).

Point 3 – We can come to Jesus wherever and however we are

8. Pastor Chuck said, "The most important question in life is, 'Who do you say that I am?'" (Matthew 16:15). How would you like your knowledge and experience of Jesus to be broadened by Who He *really is*, and not just what your own experience leads you to believe?
9. Do we believe that we, or others, can really come to Jesus *however* we really are?
10. What would it take for our church to be more "winsome" to outsiders who are seeking to meet Jesus as He really is?