

THE OPENING:

- WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A PERSON OF HOPE? HOW DOES THIS HOPE HELP YOU TO BE KIND, BE GENEROUS, & LIVE FOR THE GOOD OF OTHERS?
- IN TONIGHT'S MESSAGE WE REVISIT THE LIFE OF KING DAVID, AND HOW THE LOVE WHICH GOD HAS FOR US IS GREATER THAN OUR LOVE FOR HIM.
- FACTS ABOUT THE BLUE WHALE:
- (1) ALTHOUGH FEMALES GIVE BIRTH TO 1 CALF – IT TAKES BOTH MOTHER & ANOTHER FEMALE CALF (WORKING TOGETHER) TO HELP THE NEW-BORN REACH THE SURFACE, IN ORDER TO TAKE THEIR FIRST BREATH OF AIR FOR IT TO SURVIVE AFTER BIRTH.
- (2) THEY HAVE A BIG HEART - ABOUT THE SIZE OF AN AVERAGE CAR – WHICH BEATS ABOUT 5-6 BEATS PER MINUTE. YET WHEN THEY DIVE DEEP IN THE DAYTIME (TO FEED) THEIR HEARTBEAT SLOWS TO 3 BEATS/MINUTE.
- (3) DURING MIGRATION, THE BLUE WHALE DOESN'T HAVE TIME TO LOOK FOR FOOD (FOR THEMSELVES) & WILL MAKE USE OF THE ACCUMULATED FAT IN THE BODY FOR ENERGY SO THEY CAN TRAVEL EVEN FARTHER.

THE MAIN POINT:

- LIFE IS NOT SO MUCH ABOUT OUR SURVIVAL, BUT WHETHER OR NOT GOD'S MESSAGE, HIS VALUES, & HIS PLANS ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GENERATIONS & NATIONS OF PEOPLE WHO ARE FOLLOWING BEHIND US.
- YES, GOD WANTS TO BLESS YOU – BUT HE ALSO WANTS TO BLESS OTHERS.

LET'S NOT FOCUS SO MUCH ON OURSELVES, BUT LET'S LIVE TO BLESS OTHERS:

- NATURE GIVES US SO MANY EXAMPLES OF WHAT IT TAKES FOR ANIMALS TO NOT ONLY SURVIVE, BUT TO LIVE, AND TO BE SUCCESSFUL.
- FOR EXAMPLE, WOLVES GATHER IN PACKS & LIONS GATHER IN PRIDES TO HUNT FOR FOOD; GEESE WILL ALSO WORK TOGETHER BY FLYING IN FORMATION TO INCREASE THEIR RANGE BY APPROXIMATELY 70%, & WHEN A HORSE THAT'S CAPABLE OF PULLING ABOUT 4500LBS BY ITSELF IS ABLE TO WORK WITH ANOTHER HORSE – THEY PULL TOGETHER OVER 12K LBS.

THE TEXT: READ 2 SAMUEL 7

- (1-2) Q: WHAT AM I DOING TO HELP OTHERS SEE HOW GREAT OUR GOD IS?
- (7) **LESSON:** GOD IS NOT AS INTERESTED IN WHAT WE CAN DO FOR HIM – HE SIMPLY ENJOYS BEING WITH US!
- (8) Q: LIKE DAVID – DO YOU RECOGNIZE THAT GOD HAS PUT YOU IN A POSITION TO MAKE A GREATER DIFFERENCE – NOT FOR YOU, OR EVEN GOD, BUT FOR THE GENERATIONS OF PEOPLE WHO ARE FOLLOWING YOU?
- (9) GOD WANTS US TO STOP AND CONSIDER THE SUCCESS WE HAVE SEEN IN THIS LIFE BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE FOR US – YET HE ALSO WANTS US TO KNOW THERE'S EVEN GREATER SUCCESS AHEAD WITHIN OUR FUTURE.
- THIS (SUCCESS) – CAN BE FOUND WHEN WE WORK TOGETHER, BUT IT IS ALSO FOUND WHEN WE KNOW THE REASON FOR IT (SO THE GENERATIONS OF PEOPLE BEHIND US WILL KNOW HOW GREAT THE LOVE OF GOD IS)
- (10) Q: WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE FOR GOD TO PROVIDE US WITH A HOME – A PLACE THAT'S FREE FROM OPPRESSION (INJUSTICE, ABUSE, SUFFERING)
- **OPPRESSION:** AN EXERCISE OF AUTHORITY OR POWER IN A BURDENSOME, CRUEL, OR UNJUST MANNER
- Q: WITH THE POWER/AUTHORITY YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN – WHAT GOOD WILL YOU BRING TO THOSE AROUND YOU?
- (11) Q: IF GOD'S PLAN IS TO LEAVE A LASTING IMPRESSION FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS OF PEOPLE, DO YOU SEE THAT THIS SHOULD BE OUR GOAL?

GOD'S GREAT AGENDA SHOULD INSPIRE US ALL, BUT **WE MUST FIRST BE UNITED:**

- (17-18) LET US SIT BEFORE THE LORD AND COME TO UNDERSTAND HOW WE ARE TO MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER AS A PEOPLE OF FAITH.

THE CLOSING: TAKE THE NEXT STEP AND WORK TOGETHER AS GOD'S TEAM:

- DISCOVER AND DEFINE WHAT IT IS THAT YOU ARE ACTUALLY LIVING FOR.
- OUR MISSION SHOULD NOT BE SO FOCUSED ON WHERE WE'RE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE – BECAUSE WE SHOULD DO IT IN EVERY PLACE WE GATHER – BUT ANSWER THE QUESTION OF WHY/HOW GOD WANTS IT TO BE DONE.
- SHARE WITH OTHERS HOW YOU ARE HELPING TO MAKE THE KINGDOM OF GOD VISIBLE & AVAILABLE TO THE GENERATIONS OF PEOPLE AROUND YOU.
- AS A PERSON OF HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND, TODAY IS OF GREAT VALUE TO YOU; YET, BECAUSE OF GOD, TOMORROW CAN BE EVEN GREATER FOR ALL.