

LEADING YOUR FAMILY THROUGH CRISIS

HOPE SERIES, PART 3

BIG IDEA: Sooner or later every family faces a crisis. It's not a matter of **IF**, it's only a matter of **WHEN**. And WHEN crisis comes, the head of that family will either lead their family through the crisis, or the crisis will drive that family into deeper struggles.

1 Samuel 30 (NLT)

¹ When David and his men arrived home at their town of Ziklag, they found that the Amalekites had made a raid... they had crushed Ziklag and burned it to the ground. ² They had carried off the women and children and everyone else but without killing anyone. ³ When David and his men saw the ruins and realized what had happened to their families, ⁴ they wept until they could weep no more... ⁶ David was now in great danger because **all his men were very bitter** about losing their sons and daughters, and they began to talk of stoning him...

1. CRISIS CREATE STRONG EMOTIONS

⁶ Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV)**

2. LEAD YOURSELF WELL

⁶ ...But David found strength in the Lord his God.

3. CHOOSE A DIRECTION AND ACT ON IT

⁸ Then David asked the Lord, "Should I chase after this band of raiders? Will I catch them?" And the Lord told him, "Yes, go after them. You will surely recover everything that was taken from you!" ⁹ So David and his 600 men set out...

Don't be like the people of this world, but let God change the way you think. Then you will know how to do everything that is good and pleasing to him. **Roman 12:2 (CEV)**

4. STAY IN COMMUNITY

⁹ So David **and** his 600 men set out...

²⁴ Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. **Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)**

5. BE COMPASSIONATE

⁹ ...they came to the brook Besor. ¹⁰ But 200 of the men were too exhausted to cross the brook, so David continued the pursuit with 400 men.

6. LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO CAPITALIZE ON

¹⁶ ...they found the Amalekites [thanks to help from an Egyptian slave the stumbled up]...
¹⁷ David and his men rushed in among them and slaughtered them throughout that night and the entire next day until evening. None of the Amalekites escaped except 400 young men who fled on camels. ¹⁸ **David got back everything the Amalekites had taken**, and he rescued his two wives. ¹⁹ **Nothing was missing**: small or great, son or daughter, nor anything else that had been taken. David brought everything back. ²⁰ He also recovered all the flocks and herds, and his men drove them ahead of the other livestock. "This plunder belongs to David!" they said.

7. RECOUNT GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

²³ But David said, "No, my brothers! Don't be selfish with what the Lord has given us. He has kept us safe and helped us defeat the band of raiders that attacked us."

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. **Romans 8:28 (NLT)**

8. MODEL GENEROSITY

²³ But David said, “No, my brothers! **Don’t be selfish** with what the Lord has given us... ²⁶ When he arrived at Ziklag, **David sent part of the plunder to the elders of Judah, who were his friends.** “Here is a present for you...” he said.

¹⁷ Now, suppose a person has enough to live on and notices another believer in need. How can God's love be in that person if he doesn't bother to help the other believer? **1 John 3:17 (GW)**

I lead my family through crisis when I model the love of Christ in crisis.

Summary

1. Crisis creates strong emotions
2. Lead yourself well
3. Choose a direction and act on it
4. Stay in community
5. Be compassionate
6. Look for opportunities to capitalize on
7. Recount God's faithfulness
8. Model generosity

CLOSING

HOW WILL I USE THIS CRISIS TO LEAD MYSELF AND MY FAMILY TO A BETTER PLACE WHEN IT'S OVER?