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DAVID & GOLIATH

(episode 001)

theme: God can use children to do great things for Him. **scripture:** I Samuel 17 **quote:** “The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” I Samuel 17:37 **summary:** Nit Whitly interviews a young shepherd boy named David as he is about to face the Philistine Giant Goliath in combat. David shows us that whether the foe is a lion, a bear or a warrior giant, God is able to give him the victory as he put his trust and confidence in Him. No problem is too difficult or hard for God. The same is true for us. Whether our foe is peer pressure, sin, fear of witnessing for Christ or some disappointment or difficulty, God is able and willing to deliver us out of them all.

JONAH & THE OMNIPRESENCE OF GOD

(episode 003)

theme: God is everywhere. **scripture:** Jonah/Psalm 139 **quote:** “If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.” Psalm 139:8 **summary:** God had chosen Jonah to deliver a message for Him to the people of Nineveh. Jonah refused and tried to run away from God. But his flight was useless, because there is nowhere anyone can go where God isn’t present. God is omnipresent. He is present everywhere all at the same time. Jonah’s flight had gotten him inside the belly of a big fish. And this is where Nit Whitly finds him for this interview.

Jonah is in despair but then remembers God’s mercy and trusts that He will forgive him and deliver him, vowing to obey God and deliver His message to the people of Nineveh.

When we are tempted to run from God, whether physically or mentally, we need to ask ourselves one question. Where can I go where God isn’t? The answer is: Nowhere.

GIDEON

(episode 004)

theme: God understands our weaknesses. **scripture:** Judges 6:11-7:25 **quote:** “And you will hear what they say; and afterward your hands will be strengthened that you may go down against the camp.” Judges 7:11a **summary:** The Midianites had been oppressing the people of Israel for some time. God was going to deliver His people in a powerful way (one that would leave no doubt that the deliverance came from Him). God chose Gideon to lead the people, but Gideon had some fear and doubts. Gideon had asked God for signs to allay his fears, and God gives them to him. But even on the eve of the battle God knows that Gideon is still fearful, so He instructs him to go down near the Midian camp where he will hear one of the enemy soldiers tell of a

dream he had which prophesied of the great Israelite victory to come. It is here that Nit Whitly finds him for this interview.

It is comforting to know that in every situation we find ourselves that God is there and that He understands and knows our frailty and will comfort and encourage us to do His will.

DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN

(episode 005)

theme: Our first allegiance is to God **scripture:** Daniel 6:1-23 **quote:** "We must obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29 **summary:** Daniel lived in Babylon. A law was enacted that made it illegal to pray to anyone but the King, Nebuchadnezzar. Daniel was faced with a decision. If he obeyed the King's law he would have to violate the First Commandment and sin against God. But if he remained faithful to God, he would have to break the King's law, and the consequences were that he would be thrown into a lion's den where death seemed certain. Daniel chose to obey God rather than men.

Nit Whitly attempts to interview Daniel to discover why he made this choice, even at the risk of his own life. The answer is simple, but not easy. Whenever the desires or laws of men are contrary to God's law, our first allegiance is always to God. In the case of Daniel we know that God protected him in the lion's den and delivered him out of it. Even if he hadn't, Daniel's decision was still the right one, and it is the right one for us today.

ELIJAH & JEZEBEL

(episode 009)

theme: When weighing all the facts, don't forget to include God **scripture:** I Kings 19 **quote:** "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world." John

16:33 **summary:** Cowboy Bob tells his Rodeo Round-up Gang the story of Elijah fleeing from Jezebel. Elijah had just seen God move miraculously in a triumph over the priests of the false god Baal. But when the wicked Queen Jezebel threatens to kill him for it, he flees to the wilderness and desires to die. When God asks him why he is there Elijah explains the situation to God. "I have been very zealous for the Lord," Elijah explains, "For the sons of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars and killed Your prophets with the sword. And I alone am left; and now they seek my life, to take it away." But in listing all these things, Elijah had left out the most important fact of all: God is sovereign over all the earth.

Let us always remember that, no matter how serious or dark the trouble is, God is still on His throne. He knows all of what's going on and there is no situation that is beyond His power.

This episode was actually the first written, and was the basis for the whole series. A reality check is when we take a situation and weigh all the factors in as we decide what would be the best course of action to take. To take a true reality check we must not forget God's power and His promise to never leave nor forsake us, and that He can be trusted to be faithful to His word.

DAVID & SAUL

(episode 011)

theme: God's promises to us will come in His time. **scripture:** I Samuel 26:1-12 **quote:** "Humble yourselves therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt

you at the proper time." I Peter 5:6 **summary:** David had been anointed by Samuel to replace Saul as King of Israel. But at the time of this story Saul was still alive and still King. But Saul was

aware that David was in favor with God and became jealous. So much so that he wanted to kill David and set out after him for that purpose.

One night David snuck into Saul's camp as he and his men were sleeping. And this is where Nit Whitly finds David. David's friend Abishai interpreted this situation as an opportunity from God for David to eliminate Saul and ascend to the throne. But David wisely saw otherwise.

Saul had sinned against God and God had indeed chosen David to replace him as King. But even though David would one day have the throne he understood that he could not break God's command against murder in order to bring it about. God had made Saul King, and God would remove Him when the time was right.

Sometimes we may be faced with an opportunity to bring about something that we know God has for us but in the process have to break one or more of His commandments to do it. If that's the case we must resist the temptation and rely rather on God's timing to bring about what He wants to do.

ELISHA & THE WIDOW

(episode 014)

theme: God hears our cries for help **scripture:** II Kings 4:1-7 **quote:** "For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in lovingkindness

to all who call upon You." Psalm 86:5 **summary:** There was a righteous man who died leaving some debt. His creditor came to the man's widow to collect what he is owed, but all she had was a jar of oil, so he is prepared to take her two sons to be his slaves in payment of the debt. God sends the prophet Elisha to the woman's aid, and Nit Whitly finds him at the widow's home. He instructs her to borrow all the jars and vessels she can from her neighbors. After she has done this, Elisha instructs her to pour the oil she has into them. She continued to pour oil until everyone of the jars and vessels were full. Then Elisha told her to sell the oil to pay her debt and what was left over would be for her and her sons to live on.

God hears our cries and He will never abandon nor forsake those who are His. As it says in Hebrews 6:10, "For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints."

JACOB & ESAU

(episode 015)

theme: Living by our own wits will get us into trouble. **scripture:** Genesis 31-33 **quote:** "For the Lord will be your confidence, and will keep your foot from being

caught." Proverbs 3:26 **summary:** Nit Whity is trying to investigate the story of Jacob, the son of Isaac. But through some glitch in time and space he ends up in the middle of a family feud far from Jacob's time and place. But he still reports the story.

Jacob was a pretty clever fellow, and he had gotten by for some time living by his wits. But eventually his trickery and deception caught up with him. He has lived for some time with his father-in-law, but Jacob's ways have caused a rift between them and Jacob is heading back to the land of his father. Unfortunately for him his brother Esau is there. Jacob had tricked Esau out of the blessing their father planned to give him and Esau was so angry that he vowed to kill Jacob. It's at this time that Jacob realizes that his ways have gotten him into a lot of trouble. So he has spent the night wrestling with an angel in order to obtain God's blessing. Jacob is changed, he's a new man. No longer will he live by his own strength and wisdom, but by the strength and wisdom of God.

We must all come to the same place Jacob did (although we don't have to cause so much trouble to get there) and depend not on our own ability and wisdom to live, but on God's.

OBEDIENCE VS. SACRIFICE

(episode 019)

theme: God prefers us to obey Him than to sacrifice to Him **scripture:** Matthew 21:28-31; I Samuel 15:22; Hebrews 5:8 **quote:** “Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice.” I Samuel 15:22b **summary:** On this installment of the popular game show “Guess That Truth” host E. Buzz Backs presents his contestants with questions concerning God’s pleasure in obedience versus sacrifice. Although it’s true that when we sacrifice something to God, whether it’s our time or labor or money, it costs us something, we find from God’s word that He is more pleased when we obey Him.

In I Samuel 15 King Saul had led the Israelite army to a great victory by God over their enemies, the Amalekites. But after the victory the people did not obey God’s instructions completely. Rather than destroying everything the Amalekites had, they spared the best of what they had. When Samuel, the prophet and judge, confronted Saul about his disobedience Saul said that they had not destroyed the choicest sheep and oxen so that they could offer them up as a sacrifice to God. Chances are this was not the reason, but even if it was. Samuel explained to Saul that God does not delight in our sacrifices as much as He does in our obedience to Him.

To offer up our time and resources to God is good, but not at the expense of disobeying His commands.

SOLOMON & THE IMPORTANCE OF WISDOM

(episode 020)

theme: Acquiring wisdom is the key to a successful life. **scripture:** Proverbs 9:10; 2:10-12; 4:7; 16:6; 19:8; 24:3,4 **quote:** “The beginning of wisdom is: Acquire wisdom; and with all your acquiring, get understanding.” Proverbs 4:7 **summary:** Nit Whitly travels back in time to talk with King Solomon, who is busy writing the book of Proverbs. Solomon imparts to us the importance of wisdom with several entries into this book.

Such as, to reverence God is the beginning of wisdom - realizing His superiority over us. He knows much better than we do how things are and what is the best way to live our lives. To know God is to have understanding. Solomon also tells us that the one who gets wisdom shows that he loves himself, and that the one who remembers what he has learned will find good. It’s through wisdom that a person’s life is successfully built and firmly established, and by utilizing wisdom they will enjoy many good things.

The importance of taking advice from God can never be underestimated.

ADAM & THE ORDER OF CREATION

(episode 024)

theme: God created man to have dominion on the earth. **scripture:** Genesis 1:20-28 **quote:** “And God blessed [man]; and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over [it].’” Genesis 1:28 **summary:** Even though Nit Whitly gets held up in a custom’s office, he still delivers a report concerning the order of creation. Even though man was created on the 6th day, he was given pre-eminence by God over everything else he created. Man was the only living creature to be made in the image and likeness of God, and God charged man with subduing the earth and ruling over it.

Of course, with that kind of power comes a great deal of responsibility. Man is to be a steward of what God has made. He is to use what God has given him wisely, justly and properly. God has given man authority on the earth, but it's good for us to remember that God still has authority over man and that we exercise our authority in subjection to His.

NOAH & LOOKING FOOLISH

(episode 031)

theme: Sometimes obeying God may mean we look foolish in the eyes of men. **scripture:** Genesis 6:1-9:17 **quote:** "The wisdom of this world is foolishness before God." I Corinthians 3:18a **summary:** Sometimes obeying God may cause us to appear foolish in the eyes of those who don't serve Him. But obeying God, in spite of what people think or say about us, is always worth it. Cowboy Bob gives his Rodeo Round-up Gang an example of this from the book of Genesis.

Noah was a righteous man, but those who lived around him were wicked. Men had grown so wicked that God was going to send judgment on the earth in the form of a great flood which would be caused by forty straight days and nights of rain. Only Noah and his family would be saved. They would be saved by means of an ark that God instructed Noah to build. Building a large boat with a great flood coming sure seems like a good idea, but of course Noah's neighbors didn't know about the great flood. Many scholars believe that, until those forty days and nights of rain, it had never rained on the earth before. All this made Noah's work seem very foolish to those who saw him. But he labored on, in spite of how he appeared to those around him, and his obedience saved him and his family.

We will probably never be instructed by God to build an ark, but as we try to live our lives in accordance with God's word we will inevitably be faced with situations where obeying God will make us look foolish. The latest video game may contain things that God says are wrong and not playing it with our friends may cause them to laugh at us or tease us. We may look foolish to some when we refuse to cheat on a test at school when cheating would get us a better grade.

In all things let's obey God. Sometimes this may cause us to appear foolish to the world, but God says we're being wise.