A Father You Can Count On
1 Samuel 17:12-19

Sermon Outline

A. Children’s Choices Never Changes Dad’s Heart (vs. 12-14a; 28-30):

1. Jesse’s oldest sons decided to be soldiers.
2. Jesse’s eldest sons choose to go to war.
3. By the meaning of the word “went”, they did not seem to seek their father’s advice they decided on their own to make this their career.
4. They made Saul their leader and the person who will decide the course of their lives.
5. Jesse’s sons followed Saul in the days that Saul did evil in the sight of God.

B. He is a Leader You Can Trust (vs. 14b-15):

1. David’s life was to now go between Saul’s palace and his father’s house.
2. Seems to imply that while the oldest brothers were totally committed to Saul, David was still obedient and faithful to his father’s house.
3. David properly and faithfully did what was expected of him.
4. David was a young man so it was safe to send him. He was too young for Saul to try to recruit him.

C. He Finds Ways to Care and Protect (vs. 14-19):

1. Jesse could no longer do nothing, he had to speak up. What Jesse is saying to David, he planned on saying and is not going to stop saying it until it is done.
2. Jesse commands David to go to his brothers with a sense of urgency.
3. What David commanded to take was already well prepared.
4. David had a moral obligation to take the food because these are his brothers.
5. David taking food for his brothers is of greater importance than shepherding sheep or taking care of Saul.
6. Jesse commands David to move quickly.
7. Jesse seems to be seeking to influence his son’s commander to look out for them.
8. Since relatives brought food for the soldiers, giving him a commodity like cheese may cause him to take care of Jesse’s sons. As long as they are living he can get more food.
9. David was not just to bring them food he needed to carefully inspect his brothers’ circumstances so that he can provide his aged father a full report.
10. Jesse, by asking about his son’s welfare, wanted to know if they were actually engaged in the war. He was concerned for their life.
11. David is actively and continuously seeking to gather information about his father’s sons and deliver the information to him.
12. Jesse knew exactly where his sons were.