

CENTERED**Reverence: Uzzah's Story**

2 Samuel 6

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MESSAGE NOTES

What we need to know about the Ark of the Covenant:

1. The purpose of the Ark reveals the reason for the reverence of the Ark.
2. The significance of the Ark was the reason for the ritual behind moving the Ark.

Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace and was strengthened. Living in the fear of the Lord and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers. — Acts 9:31

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. — 1 John 4:18

If we truly understood God's character, we would humbly respond to God's commands.

David finally realizes God does want to bless his people ... but his blessing is tied to their obedience.

What we should learn from this moment in history:

1. Responsiveness to God is the starting point for His blessing in our lives.

Whoever fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for their children it will be a refuge. The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death. — Proverbs 14:26 – 27

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire. — Hebrews 12:28 – 29

2. Reverence for God is the attitude that results in genuine freedom and joy.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight. — Proverbs 3:5 – 6

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones. — Proverbs 3:7 – 8

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Share what you can recall about the Ark of the Covenant?
- What did it symbolize? What was inside of it and why was that significant?
- Why do you think God gave such strict and explicit directions for how the Ark was to be handled?
- In our culture today, what do most people think about God's commands?
- As followers of Jesus, and in relationship with God because of grace, what is the motivation for obedience to God's Word?
- Some people feel like they will lose God's love for them when they sin. What does Scripture say about that?
- Even though we are no longer bound legalistically to the Mosaic Law, Jesus clearly reiterated the spiritual principles behind the 10 commandments. What sort of problems do we create when we disregard those truths?
- How does Hebrews 12:28-29 help us understand what Scripture means by "the fear of the Lord?"
- Paul wrote about a new law, the law of the Spirit. What do you think he meant by that? (See Romans 8:1 – 6 and Galatians 5:13 – 26).
- In what way are we most free when we're filled with and surrendered to the Spirit of God living in us?
- How has this discussion impacted the way you view your life as a follower of Jesus?