

**Sink or Swim**  
**When You're Over Your Head...Every Stroke Counts**

1 Samuel 30  
Elder Tim Shoemaker  
12/27/20

**Introduction**

**Ziklag . . . likely the lowest point of David's life** (1 Samuel 30:1-6a)

**SEVEN Principles to Apply When You're Over Your Head**

**1. \_\_\_\_\_ YOURSELF in the LORD** (1 Samuel 30:6b)

- Remember WHO GOD IS (all powerful, etc.)
- Remember WHAT GOD IS LIKE (loving, compassionate, etc.)
- Remember WHAT GOD HAS DONE HISTORICALLY
- Remember WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR YOU
- Remember HOW HE LOVES YOU & WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU
- Remember HE IS IN CONTROL & IN THE END WE WIN
- Remember WHEN WE PRAY HE HEARS ... JESUS INTERCEDES
- Remember TO KEEP OUR EYES ON JESUS
- Remember the PERSPECTIVE of 2 Corinthians 4:7-18
- Strengthening self in the Lord is BEING in the WORD . . . MEMORIZING

Strengthening self in the Lord is a discipline exercised by heroes in the Bible . . .

**2. SEEK GOD'S \_\_\_\_\_** (1 Samuel 30:7-8)

Careful we don't get ahead of God ...

**3. GET \_\_\_\_\_ . . . even when conditions aren't ideal**

(1 Samuel 30:9a)

Be careful you're not waiting for all the answers, ideal timing, ideal conditions . . .

Be careful not to fall into Peter's trap . . .

**4. DON'T \_\_\_\_\_ . . . even if others around you do** (1 Samuel 30:9b-10)

We'll never get the payoff if we quit . . .

Be careful not to get sidetracked either . . .

**5. GET \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ HELP to keep you on track**

(1 Samuel 30:11-20)

Who has travelled your path before?

Who has God put on your path?

**6. BE \_\_\_\_\_ WHEN YOU SUCCEED** (1 Samuel 30:21-30)

Remember those who couldn't keep up . . .

Remember who deserves the credit . . .

**7. NEVER FORGET YOU'RE AN \_\_\_\_\_ to OTHERS**

(1 Samuel 30:25)

If we want others to follow our lead . . . we must be worthy of being followed.

Let's keep our hands clean . . .

**David's DARKEST TRIAL turned into a WONDERFUL VICTORY.**

**His GREAT LOSS turned into a GREAT GAIN.**

**GOD had things IN MOTION that David couldn't possibly see.**

**GOD often is doing the same with us . . .**

**When we're over our head . . . let's do our part to make every stroke count.**

**And remember . . . GOD is the great rescuer!!**

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