

Good Shepherd

MARCH 23, 2025

Sermon Discussion Questions: 2 Samuel 6:1-11

The sermon describes the Ark as not just a prop, but a "character" that reveals what God is like. How does God's reaction to Uzzah's touching of the Ark reveal aspects of His character that we might be uncomfortable with? How does this challenge or deepen your understanding of God's holiness?

David's initial response to Uzzah's death was anger, followed by fear. Have you ever experienced a situation where your understanding of God was suddenly challenged? How did you respond, and how did that experience change your relationship with God?

The sermon compares the Ark of the Covenant to a "transformer" that makes God's overwhelming power approachable in a limited way. In what ways is Jesus the ultimate "transformer" who allows us to approach God safely? What does this tell us about the significance of the incarnation?

The passage draws a parallel between how God "broke through" against David's enemies (the Philistines) and how He "broke through" against Uzzah. What does this teach us about God's consistent holiness across different relationships? How does this challenge our assumptions about being "on God's side"?

The sermon mentions the "healthy fear of God" versus an "unhealthy fear." What's the difference between these types of fear, and why does John Newton in "Amazing Grace" say that it was "grace that taught my heart to fear"? How might a proper fear of God actually draw us closer to Him?

In the conclusion, the sermon points out how God blessed Obed-edom the Gittite (a foreigner) when the Ark was in his house. What does this reveal about God's grace and His attitude toward outsiders? How does this relate to the way Christ ultimately makes God's presence accessible to all people?