

Summer becomes an accelerated time of evangelism in our fellowship. I remember as a disciple P. Greg challenging us to fill the calendar and get outside the 4 walls of the church & One80 and take territory in the area for Jesus. *Neighborhood healing crusades, front yard outreaches, apartment complex outreaches, park outreaches, family fun days, street preaching...* In the passage we are going to look at; Jonathan finds an opportunity for the kingdom; takes a victory & advances the plan of God ... I want to connect this story to Evangelism.

I THE WILL OF GOD:

A- There is the overall question every believer has to work out: What is Gods will for my life?

1. We understand & believe that God has a specific plan for every individual.
2. But then there are things that ARE the will of God... and you don't need a *visitation* for it-
3. In our passage: There was an overall purpose for the people of God; To advance the kingdom.
 - a. **Deut1:8** See, I have set the land before you; go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to give to them and their descendants after them.'
 - i. This wasn't NEW information... This was the will of God established since Abraham.
4. Understand: Jonathans decision to GO... was not something he needed to pray about... It's within the will of God.

B- For us: This hasn't changed; The will of God is that we advance the Kingdom in the hearts of men & women.

1. **Mark16:15** And He said to them, Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

a. We don't need a *visitation* or a *special calling* to evangelism, it was already declared as God's will

2. But; Like we see in our text the will of God isn't always getting accomplished;

a. Sometimes People aren't active in it- **1Sam14:2** Meanwhile, Saul and his 600 men were camped on the outskirts of Gibeah, around the pomegranate tree at Migron.

i. Our Peers aren't: Jonathan goes, but there's 600 men camped out in life... Sometimes this happens to the culture of the church no one is rising up... no one is doing... they are there, but camped.

ii. Spiritually seasoned aren't: **1Sam14:3** Among Saul's men was Ahijah the priest, who was wearing the ephod, the priestly vest... He has the look, he has ministry, he is present... but camped... (Out of town outreach: Guy present, able but doing nothing because "*I did that for 15 years*")

iii. Leadership isn't: Text says Saul was also camped... (*Rochester: 2 disciples outreached on Saturday on their own*)

3. But the will of God is advance... Until Jesus returns.

II THE DIFFICULTIES OF ADVANCING

A- The truth is there will be difficulties to work through in order to do the will of God.

1. **1Sam14:4** To reach the Philistine outpost, Jonathan had to go down between two rocky cliffs...

a. Advancing will sometimes be very inconvenient: I've seen guys get stirred to do something, but its inconvenient.

i. *I gotta plan/organize/call/sort out/evangelize...* can't you just give me a microphone? ...Theres Cliffs

2. Advancing will be humbling at times: **1Sam14:3** No one realized that Jonathan had left the Israelite camp.

a. You have 600 peers, Spiritual Priests, & Leadership not knowing what you are doing... It's just the 2 of them.

b. Thats humbling... b/c some men are just doing it for the recognition; The report/Pastor to see/people will know
i. What if no one knows? What if no one sees? What if no one from church shows up? Can you still advance?

3. Advancing will take work: **1Sam14:13** So they climbed up using both hands and feet...

a. They climbed the cliff... They put in the work! This is ministry... ITS A LOT OF STINKING WORK!

4. Many times men have a hard time getting beyond these... But it was worth it to Jonathan... to be in the will of God.

III VICTORY:

A- Our passage reminds us of the possibilities that could unlock if we would make the decision to advance-

1. The enemy goes into Panic: **1Sam14:15** Suddenly, panic broke out in the Philistine army...

a. Hell fears active Christians... Inactivity is comfortable to Satan... we make his job easier when we do nothing.

2. God gets involved: **1Sam14:15** And just then an earthquake struck, and everyone was terrified...

a. God brings power beyond ourselves, and accelerates our efforts... This is why we need the anointing of the HG.

3. Victory comes in the form of people: **1Sam14:14** They killed some twenty men in all... Here dead enemies is the victory... for us its People saved!

4. It changes the culture of the church: **1 Samuel 14:20** Then Saul and all his men rushed out to the battle...

a. Those who were camped, rushed out to the battle!

i. Evangelism changes the culture... as NC's start coming in- PWM used to say: Life begets life

b. One of the keys to the success of my churches was Evangelism... Where did I learn that?

I want to challenge you to fill the calendar... ask God to give you a heart for souls, evangelism, His will.