David and the Ark of God

2 Samuel 6:1–15

Connecting

Is there a time in your life where you experienced God in a way that felt real and that changed you? Would you share that story with us?

Observation

Let's read 2 Samuel 6:1-15.

Someone remind us - what do we know about the ark and about why it was in Baale-judah?



What do we learn about God from the first part of this story - verses 1-10? What do we learn about the Israelites and King David?

In what way are verses 11-12 the "good news" of this passage?

What are some differences that you notice between the first attempt to get the ark to Jerusalem and the second attempt?

Understanding

Why do you think this is a troubling passage for some people? How are we as Christians to handle passages that are potentially troubling?

I think we are to appreciate the honesty of David's reaction - the anger and fear and unwillingness - because we can relate with it in our own relationship with God. What can we learn from this passage for when we are not in healthy places in our faith . . . how are we to move through that in obedience?

Are there any ways you can think of that connects this passage with Jesus?

Living

Let's talk about this idea of living a six-step-praise kind of life. Do you need to grow in your habit of continual praise to God, and if so, how might you take some steps toward joyful obedience?