

When It's Worth It, It's Worth It

2025-08-24 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



1 Chronicles 15

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

David wanted the ark of God in Jerusalem. The first attempt put it on a cart, and a man named Uzzah died when he reached out and touched it. The second attempt did it the way God had specified: carried on poles, by people, with sacrifice along the way. And before any of it, David had to drive out the Jebusites who were occupying the city. Pastor Matt's application lands at home. Making room for God's presence usually means removing whatever has been squatting in the space. Reverence is not a formality. As our church says: when it's worth it, it's worth it.

To get started

- What is something you had to clear out before you could put anything else there?

Looking back at the message

Uzzah's death is genuinely troubling. Do not tidy it up.

- 1 David's first attempt was well intentioned, and a man still died. What do you make of good intentions going that badly?
- 2 Pastor Matt listed things that occupy the space where God should be: finances, comparison, nostalgia, even family. Which one is occupying yours?
- 3 When it's worth it, it's worth it. That is the church's line about costly reverence. Where has something costly been worth it for you? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read 2 Samuel 6:1-11 and 1 Chronicles 15:12-15 together.

- 4 Read 2 Samuel 6:3-7. How was the ark being carried, and what happened to Uzzah?
- 5 Read 1 Chronicles 15:13. Looking back, what reason does David himself give for what went wrong the first time?
- 6 Read 1 Chronicles 15:15. What is different about the second attempt?
- 7 God had given instructions for carrying the ark all along. What does the difference between the two attempts tell you about doing God's work God's way? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

Reverence is a foreign word to many. Ask what it means to them.

- 8 Forget the church words for a second. What does reverence mean to you in ordinary language?
- 9 David's good intentions did not substitute for doing it the way God said. Where does that truth get uncomfortable for you?
- 10 Be honest about your household. What is currently squatting in the space where God should be?
- 11 What would you actually have to remove for that to change? OPTIONAL

The group together

David needed help to carry it. That is the group image.

- 12 The second time, the ark was carried by people together, not hauled by a cart. What does that tell you about how God's presence moves?
- 13 Pastor Matt said he wants to be surrounded by people who attempt impossible things. Who is that person in your life?
- 14 What would this group need to clear out to make more room for God?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

What has been occupying space in your life that you would be willing to evict this month?

You might pray about

- For whatever has quietly taken up residence where God belongs
- For reverence that is glad rather than fearful
- For households where God is a guest rather than the centre
- For the willingness to do something the harder, right way