

### Repay Evil With Good



MEMORY VERSE: "But I say, love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! In that way, you will be acting as true children of your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:44-45



1 SAMUEL 24:1-6

Chosen by God

1. Saul has tried to kill David a total-of-ten times now because he is so jealous of David. Why does he take 3000 elite troops with him? What does this tell you about God's plan vs. man's plan?
2. What interesting encounter did God arrange?  
What did David do to King Saul, and why did this bother his conscience? vv. 6
3. God has chosen the people that are in your life as well. Did you know that God wants you to honor those that He has placed in authority over you? What do you think that looks like?



1 SAMUEL 24:7-15

David Confronts Saul

4. David had the chance to defend himself and kill the man that was trying to kill him, but he didn't. What does David say to Saul? Who does David say is the judge of right and wrong?
5. This whole confrontation shows an ENORMOUS amount of faith in God. Do you think this was easy for David? How can you have more faith in God like David does?
6. A lot of times, we want to pay someone back for the wrongs they commit against us. But what does the "old proverb" in verse 13 say? What do you think this means? How did David do the right thing instead of paying Saul back?



## 1 SAMUEL 24:16-22

## David is the Better Man

7. Read verses 16-17. What did Saul say about David in verse 17? What do you think it means to actually return good for evil?
8. What blessing did Saul speak to David? What did Saul admit that he knew about David's future? vv. 18-20
9. What did Saul ask of David? vv. 21-22 Do you think David will keep his word?
10. This lesson is all about loving your enemy and repaying evil with kindness. Can you list a few ways you can start repaying evil with good?

### BELIEVE THE TRUTH

David shows us what it means to be more like Christ because he does not give Saul what he “deserves” but instead repays his evil with kindness. David reminds us that GOD is The Judge, not us. You to should have faith in God in difficulty and show kindness to the most undeserving of people. And if you do, you WILL be blessed for it.

### PRAY THE TRUTH

Dear Lord,  
Please help me to be more Christlike and to repay evil with kindness. Help me to remain humble, see others the way you see them, and remember that YOU are the one and only Judge. And most of all, give me the same faith in You that David has. Amen.

### WALK IN TRUTH



What do David's actions and attitude teach you about being like Jesus?

## 1 Samuel 24 (NLT)

1 After Saul returned from fighting the Philistines, he was told that David had gone into the wilderness of En-gedi. 2 So Saul chose 3,000 elite troops from all Israel and went to search for David and his men near the rocks of the wild goats. 3 At the place where the road passes some sheepfolds, Saul went into a cave to relieve himself. But as it happened, David and his men were hiding farther back in that very cave! 4 “Now’s your opportunity!” David’s men whispered to him. “Today the Lord is telling you, ‘I will certainly put your enemy into your power, to do with as you wish.’” So David crept forward and cut off a piece of the hem of Saul’s robe. 5 But then David’s conscience began bothering him because he had cut Saul’s robe. 6 He said to his men, “The Lord forbid that I should do this to my lord the king. I shouldn’t attack the Lord’s anointed one, for the Lord himself has chosen him.”

7 So David restrained his men and did not let them kill Saul. After Saul had left the cave and gone on his way, 8 David came out and shouted after him, “My lord the king!” And when Saul looked around, David bowed low before him. 9 Then he shouted to Saul, “Why do you listen to the people who say I am trying to harm you? 10 This very day you can see with your own eyes it isn’t true. For the Lord placed you at my mercy back there in the cave. Some of my men told me to kill you, but I spared you. For I said, ‘I will never harm the king — he is the Lord’s anointed one.’ 11 Look, my father, at what I have in my hand. It is a piece of the hem of your robe! I cut it off, but I didn’t kill you. This proves that I am not trying to harm you and that I have not sinned against you, even though you have been hunting for me to kill me. 12 “May the Lord judge between us. Perhaps the Lord will punish you for what you are trying to do to me, but I will never harm you. 13 As that old proverb says, ‘From evil people come evil deeds.’ So you can be sure I will never harm you. 14 Who is the king of Israel trying to catch anyway? Should he spend his time chasing one who is as worthless as a dead dog or a single flea? 15 May the Lord therefore judge which of us is right and punish the guilty one. He is my advocate, and he will rescue me from your power!”

16 When David had finished speaking, Saul called back, “Is that really you, my son David?” Then he began to cry. 17 And he said to David, “You are a better man than I am, for you have repaid me good for evil. 18 Yes, you have been amazingly kind to me today, for when the Lord put me in a place where you could have killed me, you didn’t do it. 19 Who else would let his enemy get away when he had him in his power? May the Lord reward you well for the kindness you have shown me today. 20 And now I realize that you are surely going to be king, and that the kingdom of Israel will flourish under your rule. 21 Now swear to me by the Lord that when that happens you will not kill my family and destroy my line of descendants!” 22 So David promised this to Saul with an oath. Then Saul went home, but David and his men went back to their stronghold.

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