



## Icebreaker

How was your Memorial Day holiday?

## Context

Saul's pursuit was paused by a Philistine raid, but he can now return to trying to kill David. If we were to think of this situation based on games, David and Saul are engaged in a combination of tag and hide-and-go-seek. Saul has intelligence as to the area that David and his men are hiding, but he does not know the exact location. While Saul has been the aggressor this whole time, the roles are about to be reversed, and we will see how David responds when David has it within his grasp to end Saul's crazy pursuit.

## Discuss

1. Read verses 1-2. Go back and look at 23:5. What did David accomplish against the Philistines and how is it different from what Saul accomplished in verse 1?
2. In chapter 23, Saul gathered all the army, but in chapter 24, he uses 3,000 chosen men. What is the purpose of using a smaller army?
3. Read verses 3-7. [Read Psalm 37:23; Proverbs 16:9; Proverbs 20:24; Jeremiah 10:23] Was it chance or God's plan that Saul went into THAT cave?

Is there anything in the advice given to David by his men that sounded "wrong"? So, how did David know that it was wrong to take his men's advice?

What do you think David intended to do when he was sneaking up on Saul? Kill him, or cut off the corner of his robe?

4. What do you think it means when Scripture says, "David's heart struck him..."? Read Romans 2:14-16. How does this apply to David's situation?

Application: How do we teach people to be sensitive to their conscience? Read 1 Timothy 4:1-2 and Ephesians 4:19. According to these passages, how do people lose sensitivity to their conscience?



5. Read verse 8. What do David's words and actions reveal about his attitude towards Saul?
6. Read verses 9-10. What is David trying to do by referring to "the words of men" spoken to Saul and "some who told me" speaking to David?
7. David's reason for not killing Saul is stated at the end of verse 10: "I will not put out my hand against my lord, for he is the LORD's anointed."

Does David give this answer because he has a "high" view of Saul or because he has a "high" view of God?

Application: Read Romans 13:1-7. According to these verses, how are we to treat those in authority over us?

8. Read verses 11-15. David offers three reasons to Saul why he is wrong in pursuing and trying to kill David:
  - a. David provides proof of no ill intent by showing him the piece of robe.
  - b. David declares twice that "my hand shall not be against you."
  - c. David reminds Saul that he is the king and David is insignificant compared to him.

Which of these three arguments do you believe made the biggest impact on Saul and why?

9. David declares twice, but with different wording, "May the Lord judge between me and you..." What does he mean by that statement?
10. Read Luke 6:43-45. How does Jesus' teaching in Luke expand and explain the proverb mentioned by David?

Application: What are some ways we can examine the "fruit" of our own lives?

11. Read verses 16-19. What does Saul say in verse 16 that indicates he is thinking differently about David at this moment?
12. Read verses 20-21. Why is it significant that Saul now says that David will one day be king?

