

WEEK 3 | THE ONE WHO SITS ON THE THRONE...

JEREMY BELL, TEACHING PASTOR

1 SAMUEL 24:1-8, 12-19 (NIV)

After Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, "David is in the Desert of En Gedi." 2 So Saul took three thousand able young men from all Israel and set out to look for David and his men near the Crags of the Wild Goats. 3 He came to the sheep pens along the way; a cave was there, and Saul went in to relieve himself. David and his men were far back in the cave. 4 The men said, "This is the day the Lord spoke of when he said to you, 'I will give your enemy into your hands for you to deal with as you wish." Then David crept up unnoticed and cut off a corner of Saul's robe. 5 Afterward, David was conscience-stricken for having cut off a corner of his robe. 6 He said to his men, "The Lord forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the Lord's anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the Lord." 7 With these words David sharply rebuked his men and did not allow them to attack Saul. And Saul left the cave and went his way. 8 Then David went out of the cave and called out to Saul, "My lord the king!" When Saul looked behind him, David bowed down and prostrated himself with his face to the ground.

12 May the Lord judge between you and me. And may the Lord avenge the wrongs you have done to me, but my hand will not touch you. 13 As the old saying goes, 'From evildoers come evil deeds,' so my hand will not touch you. 14 "Against whom has the king of Israel come out? Who are you pursuing? A dead dog? A flea? 15 May the Lord be our judge and decide between us. May he consider my cause and uphold it; may he vindicate me by delivering me from your hand." 16 When David finished saying this, Saul asked, "Is that your voice, David my son?" And he wept aloud. 17 "You are more righteous than I," he said. "You have treated me well, but I have treated you badly. 18 You have just now told me about the good you did to me; the Lord delivered me into your hands, but you did not kill me. 19 When a man finds his enemy, does he let him get away unharmed? May the Lord reward you well for the way you treated me today.

NOTES (THE STUFF THAT STICKS OUT TO ME)

WE ARE A CHURCH WHERE EVERYONE IS WELCOME, AND EVERYONE IS WANTED...INCLUDING YOU.

GOING DEEPER

(SOME IDEAS TO PUT IT INTO PRACTICE)

QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

What's your favorite "revenge" story? What appeals to you about it? Does getting revenge help heal the hurt we have experienced? Why or why not?

Read 1 Samuel 24:1-3. At this point, Saul has tried to kill multiple times and even killed others in his pursuit of David. How do you think David felt here? How would you feel?

What happens in verses 4 and 5. What are some ways David could "justify" himself in each verse? Read the rest of the chapter. Who does David repeatedly say is the judge? Who does he trust to take care of Saul?

Read verse 19 again. What surprises Saul? What does this story reveal about David's heart?

A VERSE TO MEMORIZE:

Romans 12:18, 21 (NIV) - If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone...Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

TAKE A STEP:

Who is someone that has hurt you recently? What would it look like for you to choose to be good (kind) to that person? Choose an action step and go for it.

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ALL IN, TOGETHER

GENERAL OFFERING

2023 Weekly Budget:	\$10,187
Given September 17th:	\$5,648
Difference:	(\$4,539)
2023 Annual Budget:	\$529,724
2023 Budget YTD:	\$376,919
2023 Given YTD:	\$327,386
Difference:	(\$49,533)

BUILD YOUR CHURCH FUND

BYC September 17th:	\$1,696
BYC YTD:	\$152,078
BYC Total Given:	\$472,875

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