**1 Samuel**

*I Samuel 26 –Saul’s Relentless Pursuit of David*

Saul’s Demise

* Rejection of the Word of the LORD
  + And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel. (1 Samuel 15:26)
    - Regarding Saul’s sin of not utterly destroying all of the Amalekite spoils and King Agag
* Obsession with a Flea
  + After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea.(1 Sam 24:14)
  + Now therefore, let not my blood fall to the earth before the face of the LORD: for the king of Israel is come out to seek a flea, as when one doth hunt a partridge in the mountains. (1 Samuel 26:20)
* Confession to a Man
  + Then said Saul, I have sinned: return, my son David: for I will no more do thee harm, because my soul was precious in thine eyes this day: behold, I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly. (1 Samuel 26:21)
  + Confess to God
    - I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah. (Psalms 32:5)
    - And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; (Daniel 9:4)
    - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)
  + Confessing Our Faults One to Another is Commanded, but Not the Same
    - Confess [your] faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. (James 5:16)

David’s Desire

* Reconciliation
  + The goal of every believer....until god chooses otherwise
  + God Protected David
    - So David took the spear and the cruse of water from Saul’s bolster; and they gat them away, and no man saw [it], nor knew [it], neither awaked: for they [were] all asleep; because a deep sleep from the LORD was fallen upon them. (1 Samuel 26:12)
* Repetition (Focused Message)
  + David’s message in chapter 26 (26:18-20) is almost identical to his message in chapter 24 (24:9-15)
* Reason (Wisdom)
* 16 ¶ Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil; 17 Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. 18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. (Isaiah 1:16-18)
* David Did Not Return to Saul
  + Then said Saul, I have sinned: return, my son David: for I will no more do thee harm, because my soul was precious in thine eyes this day: behold, I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly. (1 Samuel 26:21)
  + Then Saul said to David, Blessed [be] thou, my son David: thou shalt both do great [things], and also shalt still prevail. So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place. (1 Samuel 26:25)