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## 1 SAMUEL 19:1-24

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### GETTING STARTED...

"The fireman's house burned down" is one of the classic example of situational irony. We expect that a fireman is the perfect person to be able to put out a fire, and yet just like everyone they will at times need help. In a similar vein, a Messiah who needs saving seems equally ironic. David has been so far the man who has saved others. He has defeated Goliath, driven out demonic spirits, attacked the Philistines and won. Yet what we see in this chapter is that the saviour is in need of saving! We are reminded throughout the life of David that while he is pointing us to the coming of Jesus, he is not the perfect saviour. He is a man just like us, who has to lean on the strength of God and trust in his ability to save. As we see the beginning of David's flight from Saul, we also see the beginning of God's incredible power to save.

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### READ THE TEXT: 1 SAMUEL 19:1-24

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And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David. But Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted much in David. <sup>2</sup> And Jonathan told David, "Saul my father seeks to kill you. Therefore be on your guard in the morning. Stay in a secret place and hide yourself. <sup>3</sup> And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak to my father about you. And if I learn anything I will tell you." <sup>4</sup> And Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Let not the king sin against his servant David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his deeds have brought good to you. <sup>5</sup> For he took his life in his hand and he struck down the Philistine, and the Lord worked a great salvation for all Israel. You saw it, and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood by killing David without cause?" <sup>6</sup> And Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan. Saul swore, "As the Lord lives, he shall not be put to death." <sup>7</sup> And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan reported to him all these things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence as before. <sup>8</sup> And there was war again. And David went out and fought with the Philistines and struck them with a great blow, so that they fled before him. <sup>9</sup> Then a harmful spirit

from the Lord came upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing the lyre. <sup>10</sup> And Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he eluded Saul, so that he struck the spear into the wall. And David fled and escaped that night.

<sup>11</sup> Saul sent messengers to David's house to watch him, that he might kill him in the morning. But Michal, David's wife, told him, "If you do not escape with your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed." <sup>12</sup> So Michal let David down through the window, and he fled away and escaped. <sup>13</sup> Michal took an image and laid it on the bed and put a pillow of goats' hair at its head and covered it with the clothes. <sup>14</sup> And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, "He is sick." <sup>15</sup> Then Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him." <sup>16</sup> And when the messengers came in, behold, the image was in the bed, with the pillow of goats' hair at its head. <sup>17</sup> Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me thus and let my enemy go, so that he has escaped?" And Michal answered Saul, "He said to me, 'Let me go. Why should I kill you?' "

<sup>18</sup> Now David fled and escaped, and he came to Samuel at Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and lived at Naoth.

<sup>19</sup> And it was told Saul, "Behold, David is at Naoth in Ramah." <sup>20</sup> Then Saul sent messengers to take David, and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as head over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. <sup>21</sup> When it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they also prophesied. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they also prophesied. <sup>22</sup> Then he himself went to Ramah and came to the great well that is in Secu. And he asked, "Where are Samuel and David?" And one said, "Behold, they are at Naoth in Ramah." <sup>23</sup> And he went there to Naoth in Ramah. And the Spirit of God came upon him also, and as he went he prophesied until he came to Naoth in Ramah. <sup>24</sup> And he too stripped off his clothes, and he too prophesied before Samuel and lay naked all that day and all that night. Thus it is said, "Is Saul also among the prophets?"

## UNDERSTANDING THE WORD

1. What are all the ways that we see God rescue David in this chapter?
2. Consider 1 Sam 10:11-12 with the picture of Saul prophesying in this chapter. What is the difference between them?

## REFLECTING ON THE SERMON

3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been applying to your heart from the sermon?

## APPLYING THE POINT

5. What would be an example of how we subtly try and "reason" with sin in our lives? What is the outcome of that approach? How does that relate to our approach to evangelism?

6. What does it look like to run to God in our trouble? Practically, what do we do? Again, what does it look like to rely on God's strength practically?
7. Share an example of how you have seen God take care of you through difficulty or how you have seen him protect you.

## PRAYING & SHARING

1. How can you share what you have learned with... another believer? An unbeliever?
2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



## How to Use this Guide

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This guide is intended to help facilitate Promontory Small Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Small Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God**.

The Small Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word, Reflecting on the Sermon, and Applying the Point*. We want to first understand the Word of God, and then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

*“Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.” - Psalm 111:2*