



---

## **1 SAMUEL 22:1-23**

---

### **GETTING STARTED...**

"Life is pain. Anyone who says differently is selling something." – Westley, *The Princess Bride*. While that quote might be somewhat of an overstatement it isn't far from our experience. We do experience pain throughout this life, and the question is not "if" but "when" it comes, what will we do with it? As we look at David's life, we see plenty of examples of pain. He is being hunted down by Saul, and yet he becomes a place of refuge for the brokenhearted and downtrodden. And David shows us how we can begin to work through the difficulties of life remembering that God is the one in control. While the world looks out of control, we remember that God can and does work through it for his glory and our good.

### **LENT GUIDE**

This week marks the third week of Lent as we fast from Entertainment. It is easy for us to waste our time and call it rest. We are used to taking up all of our time off with entertainment, often in front of a screen. But what we so often find is that while time has passed, we feel less rested at the end of it. We have been trying to find our peace and rest in things that cannot fully give it. By taking a break from our entertainment, we are reminding ourselves that God placed us here for a purpose, and that He is the one who gives us true rest.

So this week, try and limit or avoid screens and rest in ways that place your trust in God. Pick up a spiritual biography or spend extra time in your Bibles. Find ways that remind you of who God is and the rest we have in Him.

Readings: Psalm 90:12, Deuteronomy 8:11-14, Matthew 11:28-30

### **READ THE TEXT: 1 SAMUEL 22:1-23**

---

David departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. And when his brothers and all his father's house heard it, they went down there to him. <sup>2</sup> And everyone who was in distress, and everyone who was in debt, and everyone who

was bitter in soul, gathered to him. And he became commander over them. And there were with him about four hundred men.

<sup>3</sup> And David went from there to Mizpeh of Moab. And he said to the king of Moab, "Please let my father and my mother stay with you, till I know what God will do for me." <sup>4</sup> And he left them with the king of Moab, and they stayed with him all the time that David was in the stronghold. <sup>5</sup> Then the prophet Gad said to David, "Do not remain in the stronghold; depart, and go into the land of Judah." So David departed and went into the forest of Hereth.

<sup>6</sup> Now Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men who were with him. Saul was sitting at Gibeah under the tamarisk tree on the height with his spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing about him. <sup>7</sup> And Saul said to his servants who stood about him, "Hear now, people of Benjamin; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, will he make you all commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, <sup>8</sup> that all of you have conspired against me? No one discloses to me when my son makes a covenant with the son of Jesse. None of you is sorry for me or discloses to me that my son has stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day." <sup>9</sup> Then answered Doeg the Edomite, who stood by the servants of Saul, "I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, <sup>10</sup> and he inquired of the Lord for him and gave him provisions and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine."

<sup>11</sup> Then the king sent to summon Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests who were at Nob, and all of them came to the king.

<sup>12</sup> And Saul said, "Hear now, son of Ahitub." And he answered, "Here I am, my lord." <sup>13</sup> And Saul said to him, "Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, in that you have given him bread and a sword and have inquired of God for him, so that he has risen against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?" <sup>14</sup> Then Ahimelech answered the king, "And who among all your servants is so faithful as David, who is the king's son-in-law, and captain over your bodyguard, and honored in your house? <sup>15</sup> Is today the first time that I have inquired of God for him? No! Let not the king impute anything to his servant or to all the house of my father, for your servant has known nothing of all this, much or little." <sup>16</sup> And the king said, "You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father's house." <sup>17</sup> And the king said to the guard who stood about him, "Turn and kill the priests of the Lord, because their hand also is with David, and they knew that he fled and did not disclose it to me." But the servants of the king would not put out their hand to strike the priests of the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Then the king said to Doeg, "You turn and strike the priests." And Doeg the Edomite turned and struck down the priests, and he killed on that day eighty-five persons who wore the linen ephod. <sup>19</sup> And Nob, the city of the priests, he put to the sword; both man and woman, child and infant, ox, donkey and sheep, he put to the sword.

<sup>20</sup> But one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled after David. <sup>21</sup> And Abiathar told David that Saul had killed the priests of the Lord. <sup>22</sup> And David said to Abiathar, "I knew on that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I have occasioned the death of all the persons of your father's house. <sup>23</sup> Stay with me; do not be afraid, for he who seeks my life seeks your life. With me you shall be in safekeeping."

## UNDERSTANDING THE WORD

1. How does God both provide for and direct David in this passage?
2. Read Psalm 63, what parts of this Psalm refer to events in this passage? How does David understand what is happening to him?

## 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. Tell of a time when you experienced injustice. How did it make you feel? How did you respond?
6. Have you ever heard someone ask: "How could a loving God allow such injustice to happen?" Have you ever wondered the same thing? How would you answer that question?
7. What does Psalm 63 tell us about dealing with the unfairnesses of life in a way that makes our faith stronger?

## 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

---

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*