

Dave – part 4

“A More Civilized Caveman”

“So David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. Soon his brothers and other relatives joined him there. Then others began coming--men who were in trouble or in debt or who were just discontented--until David was the leader of about four hundred men.”
1 Sam 22:1-2 (NLT)

The Types of People God Calls to Himself:

The Distressed...

The Debt-ridden...

The Discontented...

“After Saul returned from fighting the Philistines, he was told that David had gone into the wilderness of En-gedi. So Saul chose three thousand special troops from throughout Israel and went to search for David and his men near the rocks of the wild goats. At the place where the road passes some sheepfolds, Saul went into a cave to relieve himself. But as it happened, David and his men were hiding in that very cave!”
vv. 1-3

Principle #1 – Don’t let opportunity, godly sounding counsel, or peer pressure lead you into sin

“Now’s your opportunity!” David’s men whispered to him. “Today is the day the LORD was talking about when he said, ‘I will certainly put Saul into your power, to do with as you wish.’” Then David crept forward... and cut off a piece of Saul’s robe.”
V. 4

Principle #2 – a conscience that is in tune with God’s word is a great asset

“But then David’s conscience began bothering him because he had cut Saul’s robe. “The LORD knows I shouldn’t have done it,” he said to his men. “It is a serious thing to attack the LORD’s anointed one, for the LORD himself has chosen him.” So David sharply rebuked his men and did not let them kill Saul.”
Vv. 5-7

Principle #3 – When you realize you have sinned the Only option is confession and repentance

“After Saul had left the cave and gone on his way, David came out and shouted after him, “My lord the king!” And when Saul looked around, David bowed low before him.”
Vv. 7b-8

Principle #4 – Defending yourself is ok sometimes, but proper attitude is everything

“Then he shouted to Saul, “Why do you listen to the people who say I am trying to harm you? This very day you can see with your own eyes it isn’t true. For the LORD placed you at my mercy back there in the cave, and some of my men told me to kill you, but I spared you. For I said, ‘I will never harm him--he is the LORD’s anointed one.’ Look, my father, at what I have in my hand. It is a piece of your robe! I cut it off, but I didn’t kill you. This proves that I am not trying to harm you and that I have not sinned against you, even though you have been hunting for me to kill me.”
Vv. 7b-11

Principle #5 – Ultimately, God will be the judge and the jury

“The LORD will decide between us. Perhaps the LORD will punish you for what you are trying to do to me, but I will never harm you. As that old proverb says, ‘From evil people come evil deeds.’ So you can be sure I will never harm you. ... May the LORD judge which of us is right and punish the guilty one. He is my advocate, and he will rescue me from your power!”
vv. 12-15

Principle #6 – Forgiveness and Mercy may be granted instantaneously, but trust has to be rebuilt

“Saul called back, “Is that really you, my son David?” Then he began to cry. And he said to David, “You are a better man than I am, for you have repaid me good for evil. Yes, you have been wonderfully kind to me today, for when the LORD put me in a place where you could have killed me, you didn’t do it. Who else would let his enemy get away when he had him in his power? May the LORD reward you well for the kindness you have shown me today. And now I realize that you are surely going to be king, and Israel will flourish under your rule. Now, swear to me by the LORD that when that happens you will not kill my family and destroy my line of descendants!” So David promised, and Saul went home. But David and his men went back to their stronghold.”
1 Sam 24:16-22 (NLT)