

Message Summary

David repeatedly chose restraint when revenge seemed justified. Instead of taking matters into his own hands, he trusted God's timing and leadership. His example reminds us that true strength isn't found in retaliation, but in surrendering control and leaving room for God to work.

Key Scriptures

1 Samuel 24:12 (NIV)

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.

1 Samuel 25:33 (NIV)

May you be blessed for your good judgment and for keeping me from bloodshed this day and from avenging myself with my own hands.

1 Samuel 26:23–24 (NIV)

The Lord rewards everyone for their righteousness and faithfulness... The Lord delivered you into my hands today, but I would not lay a hand on the Lord's anointed.

Start Talking

Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What food or snack challenges your self-control and restraint the most?
- Watch this week's Sermon Refresh: [Here](#) (Available Monday's)

Start Thinking

Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Please read the Key Scriptures on the left.
- David had repeated opportunities to take revenge. Why do you think it can be so difficult to wait for God's timing when we feel justified in acting?

Start Sharing

Choose a question(s) to create openness.

- Dave said that "revenge comes naturally, but restraint is an intentional choice." When you're hurt, criticized, overlooked, or offended, what is your natural response? (Fight or Flight)
- David's men kept encouraging him to act, yet he chose another path. Why do you think David resolved not to get revenge even when his men were encouraging it?
- **Luke 23:25** says – *The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."* How does Jesus' example of restraint on the cross challenge the way you respond when you've been wronged?
- **Think on:** Where might God be asking you to "leave room for Him" instead of taking control of a situation yourself?

Start Praying

Jesus, help us trust Your timing, choose restraint over revenge, and leave room for Your Spirit to work. Amen.

Start Doing

This week, identify one situation where you're tempted to force an outcome, get even, or take matters into your own hands.

- Pray daily and ask God for wisdom and restraint.
- Pause before responding when emotions run high.
- Ask yourself: "Am I leaving room for God to work?"