

Life Lessons From 1 Samuel  
*Doing the Right Thing - A Lesson in Character*  
1 Samuel 24:1-22 (page 203)

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Following Jesus means that I must be:

- **responsive to God's sovereignty in my life**  
(1 Sam 24:1-7)
  - be looking for God's opportunities to grow in my life (vs 1-3)
  - develop the ability to accurately spiritually assess God's opportunities (vs 4-6; Num 13-14)
  - be willing to let God do His work in the situation (v 7; Gen 50:19-21)
- **willing to be prepared for service through personal suffering (1 Sam 24:8-15)**
  - acknowledge God's authority over me (vs 8-10; Rom 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-17)
  - be willing to wait on God to vindicate me (vs 11-12; Rom 12:17-21)
  - be determined to not take the easy way to leadership (vs 13-15)

- **willing to serve in spite of the circumstances**  
(1 Sam 24:16-22)
  - be sure that my words and actions are consistent (vs 16-18; 1 Tim 4:12; Titus 2:7-8)
  - trust God to deal with my oppressors (vs 19-21; 2 Tim 4:14-18; Psalm 130:5)
  - allow God to establish peace with my enemies (v 22; Prov 16:7)

**Life Lessons:**

1. We have no control over how other people will treat us, but we do have complete control over how we respond.
2. God has a plan for my life...and that plan will be accomplished on God's terms or on my terms.
3. God often uses the wilderness to train us and shape our character for future service in His kingdom.