

# Becoming a Woman After God's Own Heart

## Let the Lord Avenge

### Lesson 8

Saul's battle with the Philistines ended and once again he set out to find David to kill him. When Saul went into the very cave where David and his men were hiding, it appeared that the Lord had delivered Saul into David's hands – that is, to everyone except David. His men saw this as an opportunity to finally be rid of Saul, but David did not allow them to dissuade him from his conviction that the Lord would avenge him. He refused to take matters into his own hands and attempt to end his trial early. David trusted in the Lord. He chose to wait for the Lord to take vengeance on Saul in His way and in His time. There was more at stake in that cave than the life or death of King Saul. What was supremely at stake was David's future, not as a king, but having a heart after God's.

## THE BIG PICTURE

### *Read 1 Samuel 24*

1. How many men did Saul take with him to pursue David?
  - How many men were with David? **1 Samuel 23:13**
  
2. How did David's men respond when Saul went into the cave?
  - What did David do?

3. How did David feel after he cut off the corner of Saul's robe?

- What did David say to his men?

4. What do you observe of David's character when he spoke to Saul?

5. How did Saul reply to David?

## **A CLOSER LOOK**

There are two ways we can respond to an enemy, with vengeance or with grace. David's men chose revenge while David chose to wait for the Lord to judge and avenge.

### Seeking revenge

1. By looking at the circumstances alone, David's men saw an opportunity to end the long trial he had been in. What possible reasons could they have had to give David counsel to take matters into his own hand?

2. What are you tempted to advise a loved one to do when they are being unjustly treated or falsely accused?

3. What is your first response to unfair treatment or false accusations in your own life?

○ Why do you think you respond in this way?

4. What did God speak in **Deuteronomy 32:35a**?

Resisting the temptation of revenge

1. List at least 6 things from **Romans 12:17-21** that instructs us how are we to handle unjust treatment.



3. Jesus' example?

4. Gods' promise to avenge?

### **YIELD AND OBEY**

1. What situation is difficult for you to wait for the Lord to avenge you and why?

- untrue gossip about you
  
- unfair treatment from a family member, friend, boss or co-worker
  
- persecution because of your faith
  
- suffering for doing the right thing

2. What will you do now to resist the temptation of revenge?

3. From question #4 under “The Big Picture” section, which character trait(s) in David’s life do you need to grow in?

- What steps will you take to begin to do so?

4. **Psalm 57** came from David’s heart during this season of his life. How can this Psalm help you have a heart after God’s?