



The Courage to do the Right Thing: 1 Samuel 18, 24, 26

THE BIG PICTURE: In tough times, the right attitude leads to the right decisions.

When faced with difficulties, be submissive and wise (18:1-16)

- Learn to adjust, do your best and avoid complaining. (18:5)

Do everything without complaining and arguing, so that no one can criticize you. (Philippians 2:14-15a)

- Be intentional about servicing others. (18:10)

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. (Ephesians 5:21)

Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free. (Ephesians 6:7-8)

- When evil is present, leave quickly. (18:11)

When faced with a new challenge, be humble and go beyond expectations. (18:17-30)

Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. (Philippians 2:3-4, NLT)

- Adopt the same attitude demonstrated by Jesus.

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:5-11)

- Deliver more than what's expected. (18:27)

If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. (Matthew 5:41)

When faced with an extraordinary opportunity, don't compromise. (24:1-22)

- Not every opportunity comes from God. (24:4)
- Your desire for progress is often a **BIG** temptation.
- You can't disobey God's Word and make progress. (24:6)
- Relationships are always more important than opportunities.
 - "My master" (24:6)
 - "My lord the King" (24:8)
 - "My father" (24:11)

When the darkness increases, let God's light in you shine even more. (26:1-25)

You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14-16)

- Investigate to determine the truth. (26:1-5)
- Surround yourself with courageous people. (26:6)
- Protect your integrity. (26:7-9)
- Trust God to take care of the darkness. (26:10-11)
- Forgive and establish boundaries. (26:12-25)

What area(s) of my life have I compromised rather than exercised courage?

Spiritually speaking, what's my next step? _____



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