

1 Samuel 23:1-29

Inquire of the Lord

1 Samuel 23:1-29

Inquire of the Lord

Do you ask God to guide you in your everyday life?

Do you pray daily to seek Him out, worship Him, and ask for direction? What did Jesus do?

The victim mentality rests on three key beliefs: This is all based on fleshly WOE IS ME!

Bad things happen and will keep happening.

Other people or circumstances are to blame.

Any efforts to create change will fail, so there's no point in trying.

The result is lack of faith in God, wallowing in negativity, and forcing it upon others while avoiding responsibility.

This might involve:

- placing blame elsewhere
- making excuses
- not taking responsibility
- reacting to most life hurdles with "It's not my fault" or blame shifting to others and your circumstance.
- Negative self-talk and self-sabotage

People with this mindset might feel:

- frustrated and angry with a world that seems against them
- hopeless about their circumstances never changing
- hurt when they believe loved ones don't care
- resentful of people who seem happy and successful

These emotions can weigh heavily on people who believe they'll always be victims, building and festering when they aren't addressed. Over time, these feelings might contribute to:

- angry outbursts
- depression
- isolation
- loneliness
- sin with no repentance
- self medicating instead of seeking God's solution.
- complaining

- shifting blame
- not accepting responsibility
- feeling trapped or powerless
- feeling like nothing makes a difference

Right now, are you Saul wallowing in self-pity with a victim mentality, not having faith in God and His power, and negatively impacting those around you?

In 1 Samuel chapter 23-

David inquires of the Lord what he should do. Do you ask the Lord to lead you and guide you? Do you inquire of the Lord in the little and big things in life?

If you inquire of the Lord and obey God's leadership, this is worship of God and your life will go better.

If you follow the Lord, it will impact others for good. They will see godliness and it might build their faith.

Do you tend to listen to the Bible and God's leadership or your feelings more?

Saul does not inquire of the Lord and yet he says that God has delivered David to him. What area of your life are you acting like it is God's leadership, but it is what you want and not what God wants?

Do you trust that God is in control even when life is hard?

Vs 1-5 The Philistines were stealing food. They were taking food from people that had farmed it and prepared it. The Philistines needed to be stopped. What did David do? He asked God! He inquired of God. It seems like it is time to fight and protect. David stopped and inquired of God.

We need to ask God what to do. We need to ask His direction and leadership. We need to depend on Him and not our own human understanding.

We can seek and inquire from God by searching to see what the Bible says. We can ask other Christians. We can ask a pastor. We can pray and listen for the Spirit. If things are unclear, we should not act. David could have gone to battle. David asked the Lord and waited for clarity and direction.

Sometimes, we may hear from God and want to move forward. Sometimes, it takes time for other people to hear from God and take that leap of faith. We must seek God alone and together.

David sought God and followed Him. God brought the men to victory. We must seek God and follow Him. He will bring us to victory.

Vs 6-14- Saul thinks that God brought David into his hand, but Saul did not inquire of God. Saul wanted what Saul wanted. He was a victim that wanted vengeance. Our minds and sinful flesh can trick us. God does not want David dead. God wants David as the king.

In what area are you mad, vindictive, hurt, angry, and impulsive and not seeking God? Are you willing to give this to God and ask Him to free you and deliver you?

Saul thought he was doing right, but he was doing wrong. Saul was seeking vengeance and God would not bless this. David will spare Saul and honor God, even though Saul is seeking to kill him.

David is unfairly being pursued. David thinks about God, his men, and the people of the city.

Oak Hill Baptist Church

09 June 2024

God is the one that is over everything. We should inquire of Him. We must seek Him and obey Him. He is the one who protects us, delivers us, uses us, and keeps us safe here on earth or in heaven.

Saul's larger army and power could not triumph over David, because God was on David's side.

Vs 15-24- David knew Saul would be close. David knew Saul was powerful. **David trusted God over the power of men. Do you trust God over the power of men?**

God uses Jonathan to encourage David in the Lord. Jonathan just reminds David what God has already said. Oftentimes, as Christians, God will use us to remind others what God has already said.

David was fleeing an army and yet he still trusted God. Whatever you are going through, you can trust God. He knows your struggle and He is there helping and protecting you.

Do you fear God or man?

Saul thinks he is lockstep with the Lord when he is really going against the Lord and His plan. Saul wants to kill David. God will have David as king.

What area of your life are you talking about God, but you are not seeking Him out for His will or direction?

Saul has this whole agenda in his head that he is making up. He is making assumptions about things that he does not know. David is running for his life and following God's leadership. Saul is trying to kill David and enlisting others to kill and spy. And yet, Saul thinks in his mind that David is after him.

Where in your heart and mind are you making assumptions about things that you do not know about?

Vs 24-29- God protected David and gave perfect timing to call Saul away.

God often protects us and leads us and guides us in ways that we don't see or understand. We need to have faith and inquire of Him, trust Him, and obey Him.

Our faithfulness is more important than our results. God cares if you seek Him, listen to Him, and obey Him. Things might look bad around you, but God loves your faithfulness.

Gather ~ Praise ~ Pray ~ Grow ~ Serve