

# RAISED TO LIFE

Part 4: Where Do I Go From Here?

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Grant Fishbook, Lead Teaching Pastor

**Every decision you make is an opportunity to honor God.**

## **David's Opportunity to Honor God: 1 Samuel 24:1-4**

<sup>1</sup>After Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, "David is in the Desert of En Gedi." <sup>2</sup>So Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel and set out to look for David and his men near the Crags of the Wild Goats.

<sup>3</sup>He came to the sheep pens along the way; a cave was there, and Saul went in to relieve himself. David and his men were far back in the cave. <sup>4</sup>The men said, "This is the day the LORD spoke of when he said to you, 'I will give your enemy into your hands for you to deal with as you wish.'" "Then David crept up unnoticed and cut off a corner of Saul's robe.

**This opportunity *looked* like a "God thing,"  
*felt* like a God thing, and *talked* like a God thing.**

## **Truths to learn:**

Exercising restraint is a godly virtue

Circumstances are a terrible way of defining a life direction

## **David uses a godly decision making grid:**

1. The Law of God
2. The Principles of God
3. The Wisdom of God
4. The Will of God
5. The wisdom of godly counselors
6. Personal wisdom
7. Personal feelings

## **Where did David go from there? 1 Samuel 24:5-13**

<sup>5</sup>Afterward, David was conscience-stricken for having cut off a corner of his robe. <sup>6</sup>He said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the LORD's anointed, or lift my hand against him; for he is the anointed of the LORD." <sup>7</sup>With these words David rebuked his men and did not allow them to attack Saul. And Saul left the cave and went his way.

<sup>8</sup>Then David went out of the cave and called out to Saul, "My lord the king!" When Saul looked behind him, David bowed down and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. <sup>9</sup>He said to Saul, "Why do you listen when men say, 'David is bent on harming you'?" <sup>10</sup>This day you have seen with your own eyes how the LORD delivered you into my hands in the cave. Some urged me to kill you, but I spared

*(scripture continues on back)*

you; I said, 'I will not lift my hand against my master, because he is the LORD's anointed.' <sup>11</sup> See, my father, look at this piece of your robe in my hand! I cut off the corner of your robe but did not kill you. Now understand and recognize that I am not guilty of wrongdoing or rebellion. I have not wronged you, but you are hunting me down to take my life. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> As the old saying goes, 'From evildoers come evil deeds,' so my hand will not touch you.

**What *looks* like a God thing, *feels* like a God thing,  
and is *suggested by others* to be a God thing  
isn't necessarily a God thing.**

### **The Main Point**

**I have made the right decision when I base it solely on  
God's law, God's principles, God's wisdom, and God's will.**

### **Next Steps**

If you're feeling disconnected and you want to start growing, here are a couple ideas of great decisions you can make right now:

1. **Join Alpha**, which starts next Monday, April 11. Alpha is a practical introduction to Christianity where you can ask any question (with free dinner and childcare provided)! Read more on today's program insert and stop by the Alpha table in the middle of the Commons on your way out.
2. **Get connected in a small group** at the Small Group Launch on Tuesday, April 12. Come find out about new groups starting soon. Free dinner provided! Read more on today's program insert and stop by the Small Group table in the Commons to learn more or sign up.

### **Small Group Questions**

- 1) What's the most difficult decision you have ever had to make?  
What happened as a result?
- 2) What is one great life lesson you learned from making a bad decision?
- 3) David had a dilemma: his circumstance was pointing him in one direction but his knowledge of God and his word were pointing him different direction. What needs to be present in your life to keep you from just rolling with the circumstances?
- 4) Have you ever faced a situation that looked, felt, and talked like a God thing but in the end turned out *not* to be a God thing? What did you do and what did you learn?
- 5) Are you facing a current decision where you could apply David's decision making grid? What decision do you make when you start at the top?
- 6) How can we pray for you to right now and throughout the week?