

DAVID – SHAPING A SHEPHERD PART 6

I SAMUEL 24, 26

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INTRODUCTION

- How do you know the will of the Lord?
- Often Christians use the open door and closed-door method.
- Your gifts and talents can open doors for you that you are never supposed to enter.
- When in doubt wait on the Lord, but don't wait passively wait actively.
- If God has clearly made you a promise, then wait for the Lord...to move.

I. AN OPEN DOOR MAY BE A TEST

- I Samuel 24:2-4, "...Saul went into a cave to relieve himself...David and his men were hiding farther back in that very cave! 4'Now's your opportunity!' David's men whispered to him. 'Today the Lord is telling you, 'I will certainly put your enemy into your power, to do with as you wish.'" So David crept forward and cut off a piece of the hem of Saul's robe."
- But the Lord never said that.
- People say that to give themselves permission they don't have.
- Vss. 5-7 - David's conscience bothered him.
- David knew this was not his battle, it was God's.
- We all have people telling us what to do and not do.
- But what does the Lord say?

- David had to stand against the obvious opinion to get this right.

II. BUILDING THE HEART

- In order for God to build any of us He must test us.
- He teaches us what is right then in the school of life he tests us.
- Vss. 16-21 - We can see the outcome of David passing the test.
- God tests us in living generously, in serving, giving and worshiping.
- He chose good not evil, life not death. He trusted in the Lord not himself.
- I Samuel 26:5-11,13,17-25 - David honored Saul even when circumstances said he shouldn't.
- David understood kingdom values often outweigh human values.
- Only by honoring kingdom values do you get positioned to be blessed by God.
- Opportunity doesn't mean permission.

III. TIMING IS EVERYTHING

- We have got to figure this out to live in God's will.
- When we take control God steps back and lets us reap what we have sown.
- Only when we learn to wait for God's timing can we experience His fullness.

CLOSE

- Waiting positions you to receive His will in His time.
- Psalm 37:1-29,40