

# 1 & 2 Samuel Series

Lesson #074

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Dean Bible Ministries

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**PROBLEM SOLVING: PEOPLE TESTING**  
**1 Samuel 20:1–42**

**1 Cor. 10:11, “Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come”**

**Prov. 11:14, “Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety [deliverance].”**

**Prov. 15:22, “Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.”**

**Prov. 24:6, “For by wise counsel you will wage your own war, and in a multitude of counselors there is safety [deliverance].”**

**1 Sam. 18:1, “Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.”**

**1 Sam. 18:3, “Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.”**

# David Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:1**, “Then David fled from Naioth in Ramah, and went and said to Jonathan,

‘What have I done?  
What is my iniquity [a],  
and what is my sin before your father,  
that he seeks my life?’ ”

עוֹן *‘awon*

comm both sing abs  
iniquity

חַטָּאת *chatta’t*

comm fem sing  
constr

sin, sin offering,  
to miss the mark

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:2, “So Jonathan said to him,**

**‘By no means!**

**You shall not die! Indeed, my father will do nothing either great or small without first telling me. And why should my father hide this thing from me? It is not so!’ ”**

# David Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:3, “Then David took an oath again, and said,  
‘Your father certainly knows that I have found favor in your eyes, and he has said,  
“Do not let Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved.”  
But truly, as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, there is but a step between me and death.’ ”**



# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:4, “So Jonathan said to David,  
‘Whatever you yourself desire, I will do it for  
you.’ ”**

# David Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:5, “And David said to Jonathan, ‘Indeed tomorrow is the New Moon, and I should not fail to sit with the king to eat. But let me go, that I may hide in the field until the third day at evening.**

**1 Sam. 20:6, “If your father misses me at all, then say, ‘David earnestly asked permission of me that he might run over to Bethlehem, his city, for there is a yearly sacrifice there for all the family.’ ”**

# David Speaks

**Num. 10:10, “Also in the day of your gladness, in your appointed feasts, and at the beginning of your months, you shall blow the trumpets over your burnt offerings and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; and they shall be a memorial for you before your God: I am the LORD your God.”**

**Num. 28:11, “At the beginnings of your months you shall present a burnt offering to the LORD: two young bulls, one ram, and seven lambs in their first year, without blemish;”**

# David Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:5, “And David said to Jonathan, ‘Indeed tomorrow is the New Moon, and I should not fail to sit with the king to eat. But let me go, that I may hide in the field until the third day at evening.**

**1 Sam. 20:6, “If your father misses me at all, then say, ‘David earnestly asked permission of me that he might run over to Bethlehem, his city, for there is a yearly sacrifice there for all the family.’ ”**

# David Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:7**, “If he says thus: ‘It is well,’ your servant will be safe. But if he is very angry, be sure that evil is determined by him.

**1 Sam. 20:8**, “Therefore you shall deal kindly with your servant, for you have brought your servant into a covenant of the Lord with you. Nevertheless, if there is iniquity in me, kill me yourself, for why should you bring me to your father?”

חֶסֶד-2 *chesed-2*

comm masc sing constr

lovingkindness, faithful covenant love

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:9, “But Jonathan said, ‘Far be it from you! For if I knew certainly that evil was determined by my father to come upon you, then would I not tell you?’ ”**

# David Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:10, “Then David said to Jonathan,  
‘Who will tell me, or what if your father  
answers you roughly?’ ”**

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:11, “And Jonathan said to David, ‘Come, let us go out into the field.’ So both of them went out into the field.**

**1 Sam. 20:12, “Then Jonathan said to David: ‘The Lord God of Israel is witness! When I have sounded out my father sometime tomorrow, or the third day, and indeed there is good toward David, and I do not send to you and tell you,’ ”**



# Jonathan Speaks

1 Sam. 20:13, “may the Lord do so and much more to Jonathan. But if it pleases my father to do you evil, then I will report it to you and send you away, that you may go in safety. And the Lord be with you as He has been with my father.

1 Sam. 20:14, “And you shall not only show me the kindness of the Lord while I still live, that I may not die;”

חֶסֶד-2 *chesed-2*

comm masc sing constr

lovingkindness, faithful covenant love

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:15, “but you shall not cut off your kindness from my house forever, no, not when the Lord has cut off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth.”**

**1 Sam. 20:16, “So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, ‘Let the Lord require it at the hand of David’s enemies.’ ”**

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:17, “Now Jonathan again caused David to vow, because he loved him for he loved him as he loved his own soul.**

**1 Sam. 20:18, “Then Jonathan said to David, ‘Tomorrow is the New Moon; and you will be missed, because your seat will be empty.**

**1 Sam. 20:19, “ ‘And when you have stayed three days, go down quickly and come to the place where you hid on the day of the deed; and remain by the stone Ezel.’ ”**

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:20, “Then I will shoot three arrows to the side, as though I shot at a target;**

**1 Sam. 20:21, “and there I will send a lad, saying, ‘Go, find the arrows.’ If I expressly say to the lad, ‘Look, the arrows are on this side of you; get them and come’—then, as the Lord lives, there is safety for you and no harm.”**

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:22, “But if I say thus to the young man, ‘Look, the arrows are beyond you’—go your way, for the Lord has sent you away.**

**1 Sam. 20:23, “And as for the matter which you and I have spoken of, indeed the Lord be between you and me forever.”**

**1 Sam. 20:24, “Then David hid in the field. And when the New Moon had come, the king sat down to eat the feast.**

**1 Sam. 20:25, “Now the king sat on his seat, as at other times, on a seat by the wall. And Jonathan arose, and Abner sat by Saul’s side, but David’s place was empty.”**

# Saul Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:26, “Nevertheless Saul did not say anything that day, for he thought, ‘Something has happened to him; he is unclean, surely he is unclean.’”**

**1 Sam. 20:27, “And it happened the next day, the second day of the month, that David’s place was empty. And Saul said to Jonathan his son, ‘Why has the son of Jesse not come to eat, either yesterday or today?’ ”**

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:28, “So Jonathan answered Saul, ‘David earnestly asked permission of me to go to Bethlehem.**

**1 Sam. 20:29, “And he said, ‘Please let me go, for our family has a sacrifice in the city, and my brother has commanded me to be there. And now, if I have found favor in your eyes, please let me get away and see my brothers.’ Therefore he has not come to the king’s table.”**



# Saul Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:30, “Then Saul’s anger was aroused against Jonathan, and he said to him, ‘You son of a perverse, rebellious woman! Do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of your mother’s nakedness?’”**

**1 Sam. 20:31, “ ‘For as long as the son of Jesse lives on the earth, you shall not be established, nor your kingdom. Now therefore, send and bring him to me, for he shall surely die.’ ” [Literally, *is a son of death*]**

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:32, “And Jonathan answered Saul his father, and said to him, ‘Why should he be killed? What has he done?’”**

**1 Sam. 20:33, “Then Saul cast a spear at him to kill him, by which Jonathan knew that it was determined by his father to kill David.”**

**1 Sam. 20:34, “So Jonathan arose from the table in fierce anger, and ate no food the second day of the month, for he was grieved for David, because his father had treated him shamefully.**

**1 Sam. 20:35, “And so it was, in the morning, that Jonathan went out into the field at the time appointed with David, and a little lad was with him.”**

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:36**, “Then he said to his lad, ‘Now run, find the arrows which I shoot.’ As the lad ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.

**1 Sam. 20:37**, “When the lad had come to the place where the arrow was which Jonathan had shot, Jonathan cried out after the lad and said, ‘Is not the arrow beyond you?’

**1 Sam. 20:38**, “And Jonathan cried out after the lad, ‘Make haste, hurry, do not delay!’ So Jonathan’s lad gathered up the arrows and came back to his master.”

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:39, “But the lad did not know anything. Only Jonathan and David knew of the matter.**

**1 Sam. 20:40, “Then Jonathan gave his weapons [equipment] to his lad, and said to him, ‘Go, carry them to the city.’ ”**

# Jonathan Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:41, “As soon as the lad had gone, David arose from a place toward the south, fell on his face to the ground, and bowed down three times. And they kissed one another; and they wept together, but David more so.**

**1 Sam. 20:42, “Then Jonathan said to David, ‘Go in peace, since we have both sworn in the name of the Lord, saying, “May the Lord be between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants, forever.” ’ So he arose and departed, and Jonathan went into the city.”**

# David Speaks

**1 Sam. 20:10, “Then David said to Jonathan,  
‘Who will tell me, or what if your father  
answers you roughly?’ ”**

# People Testing

**1. People testing takes place when we are faced with challenges in personal relationships.**

**Two forms:**

- People who oppose us**
- People who challenge our loyalty**



# People Testing

2. All people testing is resolved through the use of the

Walking by the Spirit:

Grace Orientation:

Doctrinal Orientation:

Personal Love for God:

Impersonal Love for Others

- 3. People testing falls under the category of all suffering. Therefore,**
  - a. Deserved: It is the direct result of our own sinfulness;**
  - b. Undeserved: It is the direct result of the sinfulness of those we are closely related to**
  - c. Undeserved: It is undeserved and designed for personal spiritual growth**

- 4. When we are under attack, rejection, perceived rejection, overt hostility, then we follow these steps.**
  - 1. We turn it over to the Lord, 1 Pet. 5:7**
  - 2. We think in terms of divine justice as seen in David's in Psa. 59**
  - 3. We go the extra mile in being kind, thoughtful, and gracious to the one who is the source of the test. Example: The Good Samaritan. Luke 10:33ff**
  - 4. We do not dwell on personal affronts, injuries, insults, or assaults. Whenever we dwell on those things, or let them influence our behavior, we are putting the other person and our sin nature in control. This means we put that person in a position to influence our life and happiness.**