# **Digging in the Dirt: #5**

## **Deciding Moments - Defining Moments**

**Matthew 13:3-23 and 1 Samuel 24**  
1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. 2 Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. 3 Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed."  
**Matthew 13:1-3**

3 “A farmer went out to sow his seed. 4 As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 5 Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. 6 But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. 8 Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. 9 Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

18 Still others, ***like seed sown among thorns***, hear the word; 19 but the ***worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things*** come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.  
**Matthew 13:3-9, 18-19**

15 Do not love ***this world*** nor ***the things it offers you***, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you. 16 For the world offers only a craving for physical pleasure, a craving for everything we see, and pride in our achievements and possessions. These are not from the Father, but are from this world.  
**1 John 2:15-16**

* **Worries of Life**
* **Deceitfulness of Wealth**
* **Desire for ‘Other Things’**

7 O God, I beg two favors from you; let me have them before I die.8 First, help me never to tell a lie.Second, give me neither poverty nor riches!Give me ***just enough*** to satisfy my needs. (How much is enough?)  
9 For if I grow rich, I may deny you and say, “Who is the Lord?”And if I am too poor, I may steal and thus insult God’s holy name.  
**Proverbs 30:7-9**

1 After Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, “David is in the Desert of En Gedi.” 2 So Saul took three thousand able young men from all Israel and set out to look for David and his men near the Crags of the Wild Goats.3 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. 4 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.

5 Afterward, ***David was conscience-stricken*** for having cut off a corner of his robe. 6 He said to his men, “***The Lord forbid that I should do such a thing*** to my master, the Lord’s anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the Lord.” 7 With these words David sharply rebuked his men and did not allow them to attack Saul. And Saul left the cave and went his way.

8 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. 9 He said to Saul, “Why do you listen when men say, ‘David is bent on harming you’? 10 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 you; ***I said, ‘I will not lay my hand on my lord, because he is the Lord’s anointed.’***11 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. See that there is nothing in my hand to indicate that I am guilty of wrongdoing or rebellion. I have not wronged you, but you are hunting me down to take my life. 12 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. 13 As the old saying goes, ***‘From evildoers come evil deeds,’ so my hand will not touch you.***  
**1 Samuel 24:5-13**

## **Private decisions are public decisions.**

* (It always affects someone else)

## **Our friends make a difference.**

* (Top 5 and Pick 1)

## **Advance decisions are best.**

* (Remember Joseph?)

## **But when you have ‘tension’ pay attention.**

* (Daisy, red flags and a check in the spirit)

# **What do you really want?**

## **What did David want?**

* (his friends)

## **What did God want?**

* (The songs will be sung.)

## **Extra Credit**

\*When David began to feel the same way about Saul as God felt about him - his decision making was much better.

# **The Death Of Saul**

1 Now the Philistines fought against Israel; the Israelites fled before them, and many fell dead on Mount Gilboa. 2 The Philistines were in hot pursuit of Saul and his sons, and they killed his sons Jonathan, Abinadab and Malki-Shua. 3 The fighting grew fierce around Saul, and when the archers overtook him, they wounded him critically.4 Saul said to his armor-bearer, “Draw your sword and run me through, or these uncircumcised fellows will come and run me through and abuse me.”But his armor-bearer was terrified and would not do it; so Saul took his own sword and fell on it. 5 When the armor-bearer saw that Saul was dead, he too fell on his sword and died with him. 6 So Saul and his three sons and his armor-bearer and all his men died together that same day.  
**1 Samuel 31:1–6**

# **Defining Moments**

20 Others, like seed sown on good soil, ***hear the word, accept it,*** and produce a crop —some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.”  
**Mark 4:18-20**

# **David Becomes King**

1 All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, “We are your own flesh and blood. 2 In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the Lord said to you, ‘You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.’”3 When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel. 4 David was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned forty years.  
**2 Samuel 5:1-5**