

## **THE POWER OF CHOICE**

### **2 Samuel 21:1-14**

#### **1. When God speaks, choose to listen**

*Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year; and David inquired of the Lord. (1)*

#### **2. When confronted with a wrong, choose restitution**

*Therefore David said to the Gibeonites, "What shall I do for you? And with what shall I make atonement, that you may bless the inheritance of the Lord?" (3)*

#### **3. When given a chance at revenge, choose forgiveness and mercy**

*And the Gibeonites said to him, "We will have no silver or gold from Saul or from his house, nor shall you kill any man in Israel for us."*

*So he said, "Whatever you say, I will do for you." (4)*

#### **4. When tempted to sin, choose to see the bigger picture**

*Then they answered the king, "As for the man who consumed us and plotted against us, that we should be destroyed from remaining in any of the territories of Israel, let seven men of his descendants be delivered to us, and we will hang them before the Lord in Gibeah of Saul, whom the Lord chose." (5-6)*

#### **5. When making a promise, choose to keep it**

*But the king spared Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, because of the Lord's oath that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul. (7)*

#### **6. When given an opportunity, choose to display love and kindness**

*Now Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the rock, from the beginning of harvest until the late rains poured on them from heaven. And she did not allow the birds of the air to rest on them by day nor the beasts of the field by night. And David was told what Rizpah the daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done. Then David went and took the bones of Saul, and the bones of Jonathan his son, from the men of Jabesh Gilead who had stolen them from the street of Beth Shan, where the Philistines had hung them up, after the Philistines had struck down Saul in Gilboa. So he brought up the bones of Saul and the bones of Jonathan his son from there; and they*

*gathered the bones of those who had been hanged. They buried the bones of Saul and Jonathan his son in the country of Benjamin in Zelah, in the tomb of Kish his father.*  
(10-14)