

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



*These discussion questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday message. You can use them for your personal Bible study, family study, and/or small group study.*

### Overview

Sermon: *Unstoppable Good*

*Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, **with the breastplate of righteousness in place**, - Ephesians 6:14*

Dr. David Jeremiah in his book “Overcomer” said, “that the breastplate of the common Roman soldier was a piece of armor made of hardened, reinforced leather. For an officer, the leather was covered with metal plating for extra protection. The breastplate covered the torso and protected the soldier’s vital organs—especially his heart. A warrior without his breastplate was vulnerable and dangerously exposed to the enemy.”

We do not want our hearts to be exposed and unprotected against the enemy. This week we are looking at another episode in the life of David. David is a man chosen as king of Israel but is still waiting to lead. God chose David because he was “a man after God’s own heart.” Yet, someone is trying to stop his heart.

He is currently being pursued by the reigning king of Israel, Saul who is attempting to kill David. We pick up David’s story in 1 Samuel 24. In this story David demonstrates to us how to overcome evil with good.

### Discussion

1. What are your top three revenge flicks? Why do you think revenge (avenging) movies have such great appeal? Why do you think returning violence with violence is satisfying?
2. Read 1 Samuel 24:1-22. How did David’s men interpret Saul’s vulnerability? How does David discern the opportunity differently and why? Have you ever made what you thought was the right decision, but it ended up being a “bad call?” How can we rely on God’s wisdom through his Spirit to discern each opportunity?
3. A popular philosophy in the world is to return, hate with hate, and evil with evil. How is this righteousness different from God’s righteousness? What do Jesus and his followers teach us about overcoming evil? (Matthew 5:38-42, 43-45; Romans 12:17-21).
4. David feels guilty for cutting off the corner of Saul’s robe. What does this teach us about righteousness? How is the righteousness of God a higher standard than morality?

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5. Saul commends David's actions as righteous and blesses him for his kindness. How can returning evil with good cause our opponents to bless us? Why are we to allow God to take up vengeance against those who harm us?

### Application

6. Where are you tempted to return hate with hate and evil for evil? What from this story of David sparing Saul's life can help you yield against that temptation?
7. Where do you need to overcome evil with good? "Love your enemies and pray for those who wish to harm you." Who do you need to love and pray for? Spend time in prayer over them.