



“Overcoming Evil with Good”

1 Samuel 24

SERMON NOTES

Record your insights and observations from this week’s sermon:



KNOWING GOD

- a) Read 1 Samuel 24.
- b) This chapter records an opportunity that David had to avenge himself of the wrongs done him by King Saul. What made it tempting for David to kill Saul?

- c) Why did David resist taking revenge?

- d) Read 1 Peter 2:17. How is that verse from the New Testament illustrated in David’s behavior?

- e) Read Romans 12:17-21. If vengeance belongs to God, is it ever appropriate for a Christian to fight back, stand up for herself, take someone to court, or pursue justice some other way? What principles should guide us in this area?

- f) How does it comfort you that God “will judge the world in righteousness” (Psalm 9:8)?



GROWING TOGETHER

a) Tell about a time when you were treated unjustly and had to decide whether and how to defend yourself.

b) David’s men concluded (vs. 4) that God had delivered Saul into David’s hands. In his sermon, Mike said that we sometimes interpret a circumstance as an “open door,” when it’s actually a test of our character. Do you agree or disagree? Have you experienced that yourself?

c) Does the world today view submission positively or negatively? Give illustrations to back up your opinion.

d) Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God” (Matthew 5:9). Is there a situation in which you should step out and be a peacemaker? What should you do?



SERVING OTHERS

a) This week’s passage teaches the value of reconciliation with others. One of the things members of UPC have promised to do is promote the peace of the church. Why is this important?

b) Identify a situation in your life where you have the opportunity to overcome evil with good.

c) What would overcoming evil with good look like in that situation?

d) Do you think the Church today needs to pursue reconciliation with people outside the Church? If so, what should we at UPC do about it?

e) Pray that we at UPC will relentlessly pursue reconciliation with each other and with those we may have offended outside the church.