



BIBLEWAY MINISTRIES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE—THE BIBLE WAY



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Many of you Baby Boomers remember Dr. Richard Kimble. He was a fictitious TV character who was accused as the murderer of his wife. He insisted the crime was committed by a one-armed man. They tried him in court, and he was convicted, even though he was innocent. On his way to prison, he escaped. His only chance to prove his innocence was in finding the one-armed man who killed his wife. So each week, “The Fugitive” TV series showed Dr. Kimble moving from one city to another as a fugitive from the law in search of this one-armed man. In close pursuit was Police Lieutenant Philip Gerard, who was determined to bring Kimble in for justice.

Like Dr. Kimble, David was always on the run from the chief law officer of the land, King Saul. While on the run, others joined him, either because of their own run-ins with the law, or their dissatisfaction with the government. Dr. Kimble was innocent, but because of circumstances beyond his control, he found himself unjustly accused of a murder he didn’t commit. David, too, was innocent; but was hated by the man he would one day replace because this man, Saul, had lost favor with God.

In our text, we find David, like so many of us, in a situation where he wondered, “What do I do when I don’t know what to do?” For ten long years, he had found himself on the run, not being able to call any one place home while living in caves. We hear him at the point of frustration when he states in 1 Samuel 27:1, “I shall now perish one day by the hand of Saul: there is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape into the land of the Philistines; and Saul shall despair of me, to seek me any more in any coast of Israel: so shall I escape out of his hand.” (KJV) For you who admit to the fact you sometimes talk to yourselves, it is also okay to admit the words we speak to ourselves often add to our dis-

couragement rather than our encouragement.

David allowed his emotions to get the best of him. This was certainly a low point in his life, and he just wanted to stop running. But nowhere do we see him consulting with God. After all, it was God who had appointed David as Israel’s next king after Saul. (1 Samuel 16:13) It was God whom he had talked about as his Shepherd so he had no need of want. But sometimes when we look at our problems and stop looking up to God, bad decisions are made.

When We Fail to Seek God in Our Decisions:

1. Discouragement will erode our faith in God.

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ENCOURAGEMENT.**

David was weary of living in the wild, running from cave to cave. His discouragement had eroded his faith in the God who had anointed him and protected him all these years. When we look at our circumstances, it is so easy to take our eyes off our God and forget how His grace and mercy have

followed us.

David wanted peace from his circumstances. There was nothing wrong with this. Some of us have found ourselves in situations we also couldn’t shake loose, so we understand David’s problem. But the real problem was the fact he sought relief from a source other than his God.

2. Sometimes we make a series of small, comfortable decisions, with the full intention of controlling the consequences of our situation; but often it fails.

Often we lose our footing and slide into the swamp we always thought we would avoid. For a while, it seemed like David and his men did well in Ziklag. Secretly, they raided the surrounding nations such as the Geshurites, Gezrites, and Amalekites. (They . . . [>>>Keep Reading](#)



BIBLEWAY Q&A

Q - "I want to share the gospel with others, but I can't get over my fear of witnessing. What can I do?"

A - Kudos to you for your desire to obey Jesus' command to "Go . . . and teach all nations" the good news of His death and resurrection (Matthew 28:19-20)! I know how you feel. In fact, I've been in your shoes many times. Sharing the gospel with someone you don't know is much like making a cold sales call. Not only do you have to deal with your own nerves, but the added pressure of convincing the other person to consider what you're offering feels like too much to handle.

That said, it's obvious evangelism works. After all, you were saved after someone shared the gospel with you. What are some things you remember about the person who led you to Christ? I'm not talking about their occupation or appearance, but their character. What was it about them that made you want to listen after they asked the first question about spiritual things? What kind of relationship did you have with them at the time? How did they present the gospel? Answer these questions, and you will answer your own question: this is the kind of soul-winner you should be if you want to be effective.

Popular secular buzzwords on facing fear include terms such as "fear setting" and "exposure therapy." Fear setting is basically writing down your fears and asking, "What if?" about each possible outcome. Once you have reasoned and planned away the worst-case scenario, you can then face your fears [>>> Keep Reading](#)



Contact Dr. Edwards if you would like to have him as your special guest.

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