

# AFTER GODS HEART

For the week of March 15th, 2026

Opposing Trajectories

Life

When you hear the word “sustain,” what thoughts come to mind?

Have you ever been through a season where the Lord had to sustain you? What was that season like and how did God help you through it?

in 1 Samuel 18-23, we see a clear comparison between Saul (the King who is) and David (the King who will be). Have you ever struggled with comparison? How so?

Theology

**Read 1 Samuel 18:10-16.**

- What comparative observations can you see between Saul’s actions and David’s?
- Why do you think King Saul continues to grow in fear of the shepherd David?

**Read 1 Samuel 23:2-5 and Proverbs 3:5-6.**

- What might these passages teach us about being people who are “after Gods heart?”
- What do these passages teach us about Biblical leadership?

**Read Psalm 37.**

- What initially jumps out at you as you read this Psalm?
- How does this Psalm help us understand Davids patience and refusal to take power from Saul?
- What does this passage teach us about Biblical leadership?

In Practice

*“One King grasps for power, the other trusts in the Lord.”*

- Where in your life do you tend to grasp for power instead of trusting the Lord?
- What rhythms can you add to your daily prayer life that might help you transition from a “grasper of power” to a “person who trusts the Lord?”

David’s life during these chapters looks chaotic, uncertain, and even unfair. Yet God is forming him into the king he will become. How has the Lord used difficult seasons to shape you into the person He has called you to be?

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

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**1 Samuel 18-23: The \_\_\_\_\_ of the King God chose, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the King Israel chose.**

## Distinctions between Saul and David:

One king \_\_\_\_\_ for power, while the other \_\_\_\_\_ for God to give it.

## Narrative Progression in 1 Samuel 18:

- Chapter 18 opens with a royal family who \_\_\_\_\_ David. it then ends with Saul considering David his \_\_\_\_\_.

## Saul's Major Failure:

- Instead of looking inward towards the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_, Saul lashes out with \_\_\_\_\_ against the Lord's Will.

## A Note on the Fall of Saul:

- Saul was meant to be an agent of God's \_\_\_\_\_, a vessel of holy deliverance. Instead, he becomes an agent of hatred, senseless violence, and generational evil.

## Further Distinctions between Saul and David:

- One king is defined by \_\_\_\_\_. The other is defined by \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord.

## Notable qualities of David:

- David trusts the Lord enough to wait on His timing.
- While being pursued, David still acts as an agent of \_\_\_\_\_ on behalf of Yahweh.

**“One Thing:” \_\_\_\_\_**