

The Heart of the Matter

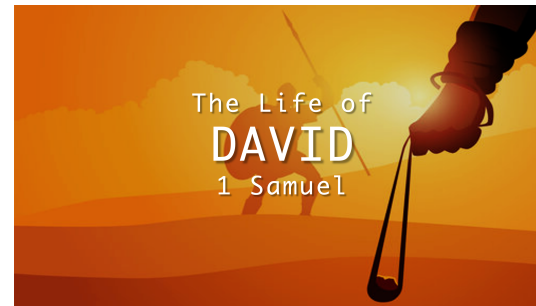
12. What “cliffs” do you think God would have you climb for Him? How does your response to life’s obstacles compare with Jonathan's?

13. What would it take for your Christian walk to be characterized by “expectancy”?

14. On a scale of 1 (trusting self) to 10 (trusting God) how would an impartial observer rate your current trust level? What story lies behind your rating?

15. Who are you most like Jonathan, Saul, or Ahijah?

Praises and Prayer Requests:



Life Group Study Guide

My God Saves

1 Samuel 13:23-14:23

For the Week of September 20, 2026

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?

2. Have you ever run an obstacle course or climbed a cliff? Describe the experience.

3. When have you experienced the proverbial truth, “pride comes before a fall”?



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 and Bible Study Fellowship International @ www.bsfinternational.org

Digging Deeper

4. How do you see Jonathan's raid on the Philistine outpost: Outstanding courage? 10 to 1 longshot? Fool hearty presumption? Expectant faith? One-upsmanship over Saul?

5. What attitude does the Philistine taunt reveal in verses 11–12? What sign from God does that reveal? What's the link between the two?

6. What obstacles did Jonathan and his armor-bearer have to overcome to be victorious? What role did faith play in that?

7. Why do you think Jonathan felt so confident of God's blessing?

8. Why do you think Saul asked for the “ephod” instead of the “ark”? (see footnote for 1 Samuel 14:18 in most English translations)

9. What is meant by Saul's command to the priest in verse 19? (See Exodus 28:30) What does this action reveal about Saul?

10. How would you describe what happened with the Philistines concerning all their confusion?

11. Who is credited with defeating the Philistines? How is that clearly evident in this text?