

## The Heart of the Matter

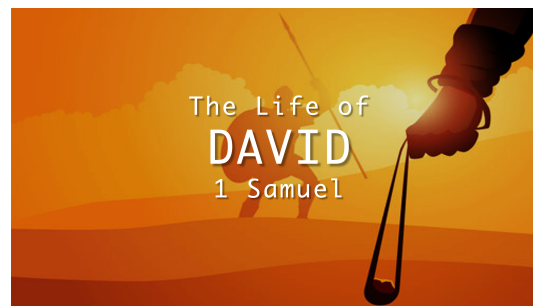
12. What positions of authority do you presently find yourself in (family, career, church, etc)?

13. How do you guard yourself from being too harsh in exercising your authority? How can you be more Christlike in your role?

14. In what ways are you like Saul, impulsive and uncertain of your words? Likewise, are you able to back up what you say? Or are you easily outvoted by others?

15. When you are wrong, what does it take for you to publicly admit it? What do you rely on as a means for making tough decisions?

Praises and Prayer Requests:



## Life Group Study Guide

**My God Laid Down His Life For Me**  
**1 Samuel 14:24-46**  
**For the Week of September 27, 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. What is the longest span of time you've ever gone without food? For what purpose? How did you feel? How did you break the fast?

3. Have you ever done something that everyone knew was wrong except you? Was ignorance your excuse? Were you punished or not?



4100 Oakland Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
[www.oakwoodbible.church](http://www.oakwoodbible.church)  
 269.349.2835

LIFE GROUP is a small group ministry of  
 OAKWOOD BIBLE CHURCH, KALAMAZOO, MI  
 Some questions adapted from: The NIV (c) Serendipity Bible. 1996. Serendipity House.  
 and Bible Study Fellowship International @ [www.bsfiinternational.org](http://www.bsfiinternational.org)

### **Digging Deeper**

4. Why does Saul bind his troops with this fasting oath? What does this reveal about Saul?

5. What is Jonathan's opinion of his father's oath? Do you sympathize more with Saul's or Jonathan's reasoning?

6. Why is eating meat with blood a sin against God (see verse 33; Leviticus 17:10–12)? How does Saul respond?

7. What does it say about Saul that before now he had never built an altar according to verse 35?

8. Why do you suppose God refuses to answer Saul in verse 37? Why does God single out Jonathan in verse 42? What could God be trying to tell Saul through the casting of lots? (note: they were using the Urim and Thummim from the priestly ephod; Exodus 28:30)

9. Why does Saul make the vow he does in verse 39? What does his response show in verse 44?

10. Where does the loyalty of Saul's troops lie: with Saul? Jonathan? God? Themselves?

11. Overall, is Saul a strong leader of Israel? A weak one? Or both in some way?