**1 Samuel 14**

**Bottom-line:**

**We can either react to life or act on faith**

**As Saul continues to react to life and act from his insecurity and fear, his insecurity and fear worsens.**

**The Story**

**Part I: Better not call Saul - 14:1-6**

* **Saul and the King, sitting under a tree, M-I-S-S-I-N-G. Meanwhile…**
* **Jonathan and his armorbearer decided to take on the whole Philistine army.**
* **One of the greatest stories of faith in history!**

**1. Faith never comes from the situations we find ourselves in, but in**

 **the person of God and His word – 14:1-6 (Heb. 11:6; Num. 13:26-33;**

 **Dt. 1:25-33).**

**2. A person of faith can impact an entire nation - 14:14-23; James 5:17**

**3. Those who believed in the Lord in Hebrews 11 acted on what they**

 **believed. They lived by faith**

**Part II: Hangry fighters 14:24-35**

**Saul makes a self-centered and foolish curse that has the opposite impact he intended, diminishes Israel’s victory, and hurts his nation**

**4. When we act out of our fears, our pride, and/or our insecurities, we**

 **not only affect our own lives, but at times, those around us –**

 **14:24-28**

**5. Saul once again shows his impatience and overreaction in not**

 **consulting God and in making his rash vow about eating – 14:30**

**His vow seemed self-centered and was not made in the best interests of his people.**

**6. Misuse of authority can provoke others to sin - 14:35**

**Part III: Saving face by killing the hero of the battle?? - 14:36-48**

**(Who also happens to be his son)**

**7. Saul’s arrogance almost caused the death of his own son, the one**

 **who had delivered his nation. (It later will)**

**Sin often blinds our judgment - 44-45**

**It’s not uncommon that our pride keeps us from dealing with sins, both immediate and long-term**

**IV: Epilogue - 14:49-52**

**8. In Saul, Israel began to experience the results of their choice of a king. 14:52**

**There is never a better ruler of our lives than the Lord.**

**Bottom-line:**

**We can either react to life or act on faith**

**For your meditation**

**Application: A great God leads to a great faith**

**What is God truly like?**

* **He is wise. He knows the best way to live life and can figure out any problem. 1 Tim. 1:17**
* **He knows everything and always has. Nothing catches Him by surprise – 1 Jn. 3:20**
* **He’s always been here and always will be – Rev. 1:8, 11**
* **He has limitless power. Nothing is impossible for Him Eph. 3:20-21**
* **He has limitless understanding. He gets everyone and every situation - Ps. 147:5**
* **He is everywhere at once. He is always there for you – Jer. 23:24; Prov. 15:3**
* **His love is limitless - Eph. 3:14-19**
* **The smallest things in your life matter to Him – Mt. 10:30**
* **You matter to Him – 1 Pet. 5:7**
* **He wants good things for you - Mt. 7:9-11**
* **He is unique, awesome, and unlike man-made gods - Isa. 6:3**
* **He is righteous. He doesn’t do things wrong – Dt. 32:4; Ps. 97:2**
* **He rules heaven and earth – Ps. 115:3; Isa. 25:8-9**
* **Merciful, gracious, longsuffering, full of goodness and truth, merciful, forgiving yet just and holy – Ex. 34:6-7**