

## Sunday Leftovers

**Sermon Title: Hot Mess – Avoid the Dumpster**

### **What's this message about?**

Every mess in which we find ourselves, whether it's our fault or not, contains bad options for our response. We tend to make our messes messier when we choose the less virtuous, seemingly less painful, option. How you respond to the mess will ultimately determine the potential scars and the ultimate legacy these decisions leave. When we choose the virtuous option (God's plan), we will always be led out of the mess and, as a fringe benefit; our faith in the Lord's guidance grows. This is what it means to follow Jesus out of the darkness.

### **Questions for discussion:**

- *What do you think was the main point of Matt's message?*
  
- *Read 1 Samuel 24: What does this story teach us about "taking the high road" when it comes to dealing with others?*
  
- *Now read 2 Samuel 11: In what ways is David's decision process different? Are the consequences different? Why?*
  
- *Do you have a process for seeking God's input with regard to making important decisions? If yes, share it with someone. If no, are you willing to seek guidance in this area?*

### **Do something about it:**

Most of us, when making important decisions, think the decision we are making is the best option. The problem is that our human tendency is to seek the easiest, least painful option (which is not always the best option). This week, think about establishing and/or fine-tuning your decision making process to include an opportunity for God to provide counsel. Consider ways God speaks to us (through prayer, through His word, through the counsel of others, etc.) and develop/fine-tune a process that allows God to be a part of your decision making process.

### **Digging deeper:**

1 Samuel 24; 2 Samuel 11; Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 3:5,6; Jeremiah 29:11,12; Matthew 7:7-11; James 1:5; 4:2,3; 5:16