



## Move Towards The Mess: Part Four: Messy-er Introduction

When you have a mess to address, first options aren't usually the best options. Getting back at the person who wronged you, lashing out, taking risky gambles—first options often make messes messier. Doing the right thing is more difficult. Doing the right thing doesn't offer quick, simple fixes. But it results in a story worth telling, a story that glorifies God. That's because doing the right thing begins with following Jesus.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What part of Sunday's message stood out to you? Was there anything you disagreed with or that encouraged you?

*"When addressing a mess, first options are usually not the best options."*

Share about a time when you used the first option to address the mess and it didn't turn out so well.

### **Read: Samuel 18:14-29; 24:1-12**

**Context:** *David was a humble giant slayer, Saul was a jealous king and felt like his reign was at risk. David fell in love with one of Saul's daughters, he gave him what Saul asked for and more in order to take her as his wife. David exceeded expectations, blew past challenges, and eventually Saul's jealousy got out of hand and he tries to kill David. David flees, but when Saul is delivered into David's hands he has a choice to make...will I make this mess, messy-er?*

- David was in a mess that he never asked for and it wasn't his fault. How have you seen this happen in life, maybe to you or someone you know?
- What is our natural reaction to situations like this? Why?
- Andy said, "**Ignore virtue and you will eventually make a mess.**" Why is this the case? How do we see David respond in his situation?
- How does David put his trust and faith in God in the midst of the mess?
- Is there a mess in your life where you need to opt for virtue over "hurt-you"? If so, what is one thing you can do this week to choose virtue? How can this group support you?
- The real story of our lives is not the mess we find ourselves in but it is how we respond to the mess. We want a quick fix but God wants us to follow him in the midst of the mess. How can you follow Jesus in the midst of the mess? What would that look like for you? How can this group help you?
- When tempted to make your mess messy-er, what is the story that you want to tell one day?

### MOVING FORWARD

When you're in the middle of a mess, you'll be tempted to make that mess messier. Remember that when you look back on that season of life, the real story won't be the mess. It'll be how you responded to the mess. Taking matters into your own hands may seem like the quick fix, but Jesus asks you to follow him. If you choose to do so, he'll write a story in you and through you that is bigger than any Mess you find yourself in.

## **LIVE IT OUT**

**Memorize:** 1 Samuel 24:12

**Journaling:** Take some time to journal about ways you can choose the way of virtue in the middle of your messy circumstance. Journal about what following Jesus looks like in the circumstance.

**Prayer:** Ask God to give you wisdom and boldness to navigate your mess in a virtuous way.

**Accountability:** Ask a friend to help keep you stay accountable and choose virtue.