

May the Lord judge between you and me.
1 Samuel 24:12

READ: 1 Samuel 24:1-10

My anger percolated when a woman mistreated me, blamed me, and gossiped about me. I wanted everyone to know what she'd done—wanted her to suffer as I'd suffered because of her behavior. I steamed with resentment until a headache pierced my temples. But as I began praying for my pain to go away, the Holy Spirit convicted me. How could I plot revenge while begging God for relief? If I believed He would care for me, why wouldn't I trust Him to handle this situation? Knowing that people who are hurting often hurt other people, I asked God to help me forgive the woman and work toward reconciliation.

The psalmist David understood the difficulty of trusting God while enduring unfair treatment. Though David did his best to be a loving servant, King Saul succumbed to jealousy and wanted to murder him (1 Samuel 24:1–2). David suffered while God worked things out and prepared him to take the throne, but still he chose to honor God instead of seeking revenge (vv. 3–7). He did his part to reconcile with Saul and left the results in God's hands (vv. 8–22).

When it seems others are getting away with wrongdoing, we struggle with the injustice. But with God's mercy at work in our hearts and the hearts of others, we can forgive as He's forgiven us and receive the blessings He's prepared for us.

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REFLECT: How can trusting that God is perfect, loving, good, and in control help you when sin seems to be prevailing? Who do you need to forgive and place in God's mighty and merciful hands?

PRAY: *Merciful God, please help me trust You to determine how justice prevails.*

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS:

- Thank God for His mercy and grace, for forgiveness of sins and the Holy Spirit's power for living. "Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23)
- Pray for those who need to forgive. May God soften their hearts and lead them to forgiveness and *shalom* peace.
- Pray for those who need forgiveness. May God open their eyes to areas where they need to apologize, make an amend, and may they to receive forgiveness and *shalom* peace.
- Pray for Israel and Gaza, the Ukraine, and other places where peace is elusive. May God protect the people who call these places home, and may He watch over, protect, and advance the work of humanitarian aid.
- Pray for folks affected by Hurricane Debby and other natural disasters.

CHURCH AT PRAYER

Current Health Issues:

Joyce Anderson's grand-daughter Kim
Ben Ashton, & his aunt Minnie
John & June Atta & friend, Don
Ed Bachus
Jean (Les) Bell
Karen Bowser's grandson, Elija
Clark and Jean Brillhart's friend, Shirley Thompson
Pat Carroll's daughter, Jennifer
Sally Clark
Charlie Costello
George Chamberlin
Dawn Durling
Diane (Richard) Grant, her sister, Barbara, & brother-in-law, Herb
Ray & Gayle Green's daughter, Samantha
Mildred Hartman
Ron Kelly
Jim Kemman
Mary Keogh's friends, Beth F. & Debbie
Joan Kraftchak's neighbor, Chris
Sharon Layman's friend, Bill
Juanita Leioatts' sister Shirley
Doreen Lynch's brother Richard, friends- Jessica, Judy, & Chris, & neighbors Linda & Al
Marshall (Patsy) McCammack
Cornelia Mills daughter, Dawn
Dick Nafziger
Dave (Christine) Pierson
Rochelle Sallee
Dan Sharrow
Ralph Smith
June Taylor's daughter, Cheri
Norma (Al) Tebbs' friend, Esther
Juanita & Bill Welsh
Carol Wise's friend, Luann & son, Jimmy
Julie Wylie, and her grandson, Austin

Persistent/Chronic Illness:

Pam Carter
Pat (John) Carroll
Stan (Helga) LaVoque

Homebound/Care facilities:

Patci Blackwood
Ray Bratberg
Nancy Hart
Bebe Rowe

Grieving:

Family and friends of Roger (Joy) Carey, on the loss of his daughter (6/24)
Family and friends of Mona (Young) Lopez, on her death (6/26/24)
Family and friends of Don Kern, upon the loss of his sister (7/2024)
Family and friends of Rev. Chris Carson on his death (7/12/2024)
Family and friends of Kathleen Morrison upon the loss of her partner (7/2024)



Team Members: Joyce Anderson, Clark Brillhart, Jane Capo, Pat Carroll, Sally Clark, Barbara Eisenbach, Juanita Welsh (Rev. Jeff Wood)

Pray with us— Tuesdays at 9 a.m. To request prayer, contact the church office or speak to a team member.

Prayer Teaching— CAP's 4th Tuesday of the Month at 9:30 a.m.