

## Even is Easy

1 Samuel 25

Mean People and What to Do with Them

Pastor Nate Marsh October 5, 2025

All of us are guilty. None of us is innocent. And yet, grace meets us where we are.

The Golden Rule vs. The Iron Rule:

Golden Rule - Matthew 7:12

Iron Rule: Do unto others as they have done unto you.

1 Samuel 25:2, 3, 1 Samuel 25:16, 1 Samuel 25:8

**Point 1: Mean People Will \_\_\_\_\_ Your Patience.**

1 Samuel 25:10–11; 13

**Point 2: Anger Makes Us \_\_\_\_\_ God's Faithfulness.**

1 Samuel 21:9

1 Peter 2:23



### Four Questions:

1. Do you really want to be even with someone you don't even like?
2. Wouldn't you rather get ahead instead of getting even?
3. When this is just a story you tell, what story do you want to tell?
4. What would it look like to return good for evil?

### Weekly Application Step:

This week, notice one person whose meanness has been affecting you, and instead of getting even, pause and ask God for patience and clarity. Then choose one small way to return good for evil—whether a kind word, an encouraging action, or simply not retaliating—to reclaim your peace and trust God's justice.

## Questions for Further Study

1. How does the Golden Rule (“Do to others what you would have them do to you”) challenge the natural tendency to respond in kind to meanness?
2. What does the story of David and Nabal teach about patience and responding wisely to people who act arrogantly or insultingly?
3. In what ways can anger or frustration blind us to God’s faithfulness and guidance?
4. What role do outside perspectives or interventions (like Abigail’s in 1 Samuel 25) play in helping people respond well to conflict or provocation?
5. Why is it important to maintain integrity and self-control even when others are difficult or unkind?