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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church  
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Special

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## **A Little White Lie**

Most people who are telling the Little White Lie don't consider it harmful. Most people like David who tell little white lies believe the truth couldn't achieve their desired result.

This was so unlike the David who had been on fire for God as a teen and who had been anointed by Samuel as future king of Israel (1 Sam.16). This was so unlike a young David who faced Goliath by faith in God and had Israel writing songs about his faith (1 Sam.17-18) –“Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.” (1 Sam.18:7) What happened to David that has caused him as an adult to think that **Little White Lies are better than faith in God which he once embraced with confidence?**

(1 Sam.17:45) “Then David said to the Philistine, ‘You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you taunted.’”

Possibly a failed marriage, a career and the hated by the king, a father-in-law who was doing everything he could to make David's life miserable and had charged him as a criminal, whom he had once loved (1 Sam.18-20).

**POINT of DOCTRINE:** “No temptation has overtaken you but such is common to man; and **God is faithful**, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.” (1 Cor.10:13)

This brings us to our lesson text where David has fled from King Saul to Nob, A city of the priests, for help. **David was running from the Directive Will of God.**

(1 Sam.16:1) “I will send you (Samuel) to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have selected a king for myself among his sons.”

<b>This lesson will study <u>four aspects</u> of the circumstances and consequences of David's Little White lie.</b>
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### **1. David went to Nob to appeal to the high priest for some help with the necessities of life**

(1 Sam.21:1-3) In itself, this is not a bad decision. But he stopped at Nob on his way out of the Directive Will of God.

Remember that the Directive Will of God has three factors that must always line-up with it.

- Geographical Will
- Operational Will
- Mental Will

The city of Nob was the city of 85 priests and their families. It was just a few miles from Jerusalem.

The high priest was familiar with David's faith:

**(1 Sam.21:1)** “And who among all your servants is as faithful as David, even the king's son-in-law, who is captain over the guard, and is honored in your house.” (1 Sam.22:19) **However, he questioned why David was alone?**

2. **To answer the question, David prefabricated a story of Little White Lies (1 Sam.21:2-3). He did this for five loaves of bread [Esau's bowl of soup] (Gen.27).**

Why lie for bread? Because David thinks that the truth couldn't get his desired results. Therefore, David told the High Priest what he thought the high priest needed to hear to get what he wanted.

The High Priest acted in good faith on the word and reputation of David.

(1 Sam.22:10) "He inquired of the Lord for him, gave him provisions, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine."

**Like many of us David probably thought, "what possible harm could come from a Little White Lie?"**

- Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) His flesh thinking that the end justifies the means.
3. **In the midst of his Little White Lie, David realized that his lie, and location, had been exposed to a friend of the king who just happened to be present.**

(1Sam.21:7) "Now one of the servants of Saul was there **that day**, detained before the Lord; and his name was **Doeg the Edomite**, the chief of Saul's shepherds." (1Sam.21:7)

At this point, David had a choice. He could tell the High Priest the truth and that he had implicated him in his problem. **but It was just a Little White Lie. What could possibly happen from it?** David chose to say nothing.

Doeg went and told Saul. Saul summoned the High Priest (1 Sam.22:9-15). The High Priest pleaded innocence of the conflict between Saul and David. Nevertheless, Saul orders the High Priest and 85 priests and their families put to death; but none of the soldiers would do it (1 Sam.22:16-17). So then, Saul turned to Doeg who gladly did it (1 Sam.22:18-19). Only one descendant survived this slaughter (1 Sam.22:20-23) [Abiathar].

4. **In hind-sight, David laments over this Little White Lie that caused so much pain and sorrow.**

(1 Sam.22:22) "Then David said to Abiathar. 'I knew on that day, that Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I have brought about the death of every person in your father's household.'"

- **Foresight faith** is a sign of spiritual growth maturity and walking by faith.
- **Hind-sight sin** is a sign of carnality and walking by sight (2 Cor.5:7).

In hind-sight, David truly feels sorry for the consequences of his sin at Nob. Even though he apparently confessed his sin, it didn't change the pattern of his thinking and behavior and he continued to make bad decisions pertaining to the Directive Will of God for his life (1 John 1:9) (Rom.12:2; Eph.4:22-24).

The Apostle John reminds us that, "no lie is of the truth." (1 John 2:21b)

When lies attack the Will of God, the lie is from the Devil or Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) thinking. (John 8:44)