

**November 8, 2009, Sermon Discussion Questions,
“Persecution and the Refiner’s Fire” 1 Samuel 22:6-23**

1. According to 2 Timothy 3:12, John 15:18-19, and Acts 9:15-16, who can expect persecution and why?
2. Describe the opening scene in 1 Samuel 22:6b? What do you notice about Saul? What do you think the men might have been feeling in the presence of Saul? Based on v.6-10, what negative leadership qualities are evident in Saul’s life?
3. Why would Christianity and a life based on biblical principles cause angst among leaders who seek power? Think practically as well as biblically.
4. How does evil escalate quickly in 1 Samuel 22:6-19? What lessons can be learned from this kind of evil?
5. As a believer, do you fear persecution? How does God provide for the persecuted? How are you encouraged by these passages?

1 Samuel 22:20-23

Acts 9:15-30

1 Thessalonians 2:2

Psalm 124

Psalm 129:1-2

Acts 8:54-60

Acts 5:18-42

6. How does God honor those who have been persecuted for the cause of Christ?
Revelation 6:9-11, 20:4
7. What examples of godly leadership does David exhibit? 1 Samuel 22:20-23
What do David and Abiathar have in common? How was Abiathar a blessing to David? 1 Samuel 22:19-20
8. Name current examples of Christian persecution in the United States?
What are some things Christians might do in order to stave off persecution in America?