

David's Fame: Rooted in Favour with God (1 Sam 18-19)

Questions: Week Ten

Saul's Jealousy of David - 1 Samuel 18:1-30¹

Topics: Abandon, Achievements, Affections, Anger, Approval, Bitterness, Celebration, Comparisons, Conflict, Covenant, Danger, Dishonesty, Effectiveness, Enemies, Envy, Family, Fear, Friendship, Generosity, Gifts, Humility, Hypocrisy, Isolation, Jealousy, Marriage, Motives, Popularity, Rejection, Relationships, Reputation, Resentment, Rewards, Success

Open It

- 1. What were some of the characteristics of your "best friend" relationships as a child?
- 2. *How would you describe your feelings about someone you know for whom everything seems to go right?

Explore It

- 3. How does this passage describe the bond between David and Jonathan? (18:1)
- 4. How did Jonathan cement the covenant between David and himself? (18:4)
- 5. *How did the officers and people of Israel respond to David's successes and promotions? (18:5)
- 6. What refrain was heard in the streets when Saul and David returned from the battle in which Goliath was slain? (18:7)
- 7. *How did Saul feel about David's popularity? (18:8-9)
- 8. When did Saul make his first attempt on David's life? (18:10-11)
- 9. Why was Saul afraid of David? (18:12)
- 10. How did David fare when Saul sent him out to lead the war campaigns? (18:14)
- 11. What was Saul's reaction to David's successes? (18:15)
- 12. How did "all Israel" feel about David the general? (18:16)
- 13. What was Saul really hoping for when he offered his daughter in marriage to David in exchange for feats of bravery in battle? (18:17)

^{1.} Adult Questions for LESSONMaker, (Austin, TX: Wordsearch, 1992), WORDsearch CROSS e-book, Under: "Saul's Jealousy of David - 1 Samuel 18:1-30".

- 14. What was David's attitude about the rewards and honors offered him by King Saul? (18:18)
- 15. How was David persuaded to pursue the "price" of Saul's second daughter? (18:21-25)
- 16. *What two facts galled Saul most about David? (18:28)
- 17. What was Saul's attitude toward David from his marriage onward? (18:29)

Get It

- 18. What traits might have made Jonathan and David feel as if they were "one spirit"?
- 19. Why might David have been lauded as more of a hero than Saul from the time of his very first exploit?
- 20. Why did Saul bestow honors on David even though he resented him?
- 21. *Why might we just wish for something bad to happen to a rival rather than choosing actually to harm him or her ourselves?
- 22. How did David express humility and deference to King Saul?
- 23. *Why was Saul afraid of David even though Saul was king?
- 24. What conclusion do you think Saul drew from the fact that his son and his daughter both loved David?
- 25. What were some evidences that "the Lord was with David"?

Apply It

- 26. *What concrete step could you take to counteract bitterness the next time you find yourself wishing harm on someone near you who is prospering?
- 27. What token of lasting friendship could you offer a friend this week?

Saul Tries to Kill David - 1 Samuel 19:1-24²

Topics: <u>Advice, Change, Conversation, Danger, Deceit, Emotions, Escape, Evil, Excuses, Friendship, Help, Hiding, Influence, Injustice, Instructions, Loyalty, Mediator, Murder, Persecution, Promises, Prophecy, Reconciliation, Resentment, Running, Trust, Wives</u>

Open It

- 1. *What is one of your favorite stories of escape (true or fictional)?
- 2. What is challenging about giving advice to someone older than yourself?

Explore It

- 3. What order did Saul give to all his attendants, including his son Jonathan? (19:1)
- 4. Why did Jonathan warn David of Saul's designs on his life and attempt to intervene on his behalf? (19:1-2)
- 5. *What were some of Jonathan's reasons that Saul should not harm David? (19:4-5)
- 6. What did Saul promise Jonathan concerning David? (19:6)
- 7. What did David do after the threat to his life had passed? (19:7-8)
- 8. *What incident occurred inside Saul's house? (19:9-10)
- 9. What plan did Saul set in motion when he was unable to kill David with his spear? (19:11)
- 10. How did Michal, David's wife, aid in his escape? (19:11-14)
- 11. What justification did Michal offer when Saul confronted her about helping David? (19:17)
- 12. Where did David go when he fled from the king? (19:18)
- 13. What did Saul do when he found out where David was staying? (19:20)
- 14. *What happened to each delegation that Saul sent to capture David? (19:20-21)
- 15. What happened when Saul himself went after David? (19:23-24)
- 16. What saying was passed down in Israel concerning this incident? (19:24)

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Get It

- 17. How did Jonathan prove the depth of his affection for David?
- 18. *Why did Saul want to murder a man who did him no wrong?
- 19. How did God protect David when Jonathan and Michal were no longer able to do so?
- 20. *Why might someone hate a person who has done nothing but good for him or her?
- 21. How does it feel when two people you are close to are at odds with one another?
- 22. *What is the likely outcome when we allow irrational anger or hatred to dictate our actions?
- 23. In what current circumstance might God be calling you to be a peacemaker?
- 24. In what circumstance might your loyalty to God prove costly in the near future?

Apply It

- 25. *In what way can you be a peacemaker for someone else?
- 26. What can you do to prepare for the next time your loyalty to God is tested?