

How do people react to Jesus?

Research from Rick Richardson in the Book *You Found Me*

Myth 1: Millennials are forsaking the church, never to return

Myth 2: The church is dwindling in America and will disappear in a generation

Myth 3: Trust in the church is at an all-time low

Instead...

42% of unchurched Americans believe the church is good for society

33% of unchurched Americans admire their friend's faith

45% of unchurched Americans don't mind their friend talking about faith with them

55% and 51% of unchurched Americans would respond positively to an invite from family or friends, respectively

Jonathan's Reaction to the Rightful King

A remarkable response

“The fact that Jonathan gave David the garb and armaments originally reserved for the heir to Saul's throne clearly possesses symbolic and thematic significance.” – Professor Robert Bergen

Numbers 20:25-26 “Take Aaron and Eleazar his son and bring them up to Mount Hor. *And strip Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son.* And Aaron shall be gathered to his people and shall die there.”

When Elisha the prophet succeeds Elijah, it begins with Elijah placing his cloak on Elisha (1 Kgs 19:19)

Love, Covenant, Friendship, Submission

To know the king is to love him. And to love him is to submit before him and obey him.

John 14:21 “Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me.”

Saul's Reaction to the Rightful King

Murderous anger (vs. 10)

Foolishness (vs. 11)

David demonstrates that he is Saul’s greatest and most loyal servant.

Fear (vs. 12-16)

Your Reaction to the Rightful King

Are you willing to lose control of your life to God?

It’s not that Saul hated David, as much as he hated the idea of losing his power and throne. Saul actually loved David greatly! (16:21)

Sitting on the fence... the celebrating women

Positively, they see David’s conquest as greater than Saul’s.

Yet, their response falls quite short of Jonathan’s.

No covenant.

No submission.

No eyes to see the Spirit on David instead of Saul.

How could they understand what was going on at their distance from the details?

SO:

1. Where in your heart are you like Saul – resisting God’s rule in your life?
2. Who in your life needs to see Jesus more clearly?

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. What is your reaction to the statistics given in *You Found Me*? Does this encourage you to share your faith and invite friends/coworkers/neighbors to church or your life group?
2. What is so remarkable about Jonathan’s response to David?
3. List as many things wrong with Saul’s reaction as you can find.
4. How is Jesus a threat to our rule over our lives? How do you need to humble yourself before him?