

The Life Of David Part 3 HANDOUT

9.1.25

1. The Seeds of Jealousy

1 Samuel 18:6-9 When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with timbrels and lyres. ⁷As they danced, they sang: “Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands.”

⁸Saul was very angry; this refrain displeased him greatly. “They have credited David with tens of thousands,” he thought, “but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?” ⁹And from that time on Saul kept a close eye on David.

KEY: Jealousy often arises from comparison and insecurity.

- Insecure people feel threatened by capable people.
- The danger of jealousy is that it distracts us from our own calling.
- **Jealousy robs us of contentment and faith in God’s timing.**

2. David’s Response to Betrayal

1 Samuel 18:10-16 The next day an evil spirit from God came forcefully on Saul. He was prophesying in his house, while David was playing the lyre, as he usually did. Saul had a spear in his hand ¹¹and he hurled it, saying to himself, “I’ll pin David to the wall.” But David eluded him twice.

¹²Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with David but had departed from Saul. ¹³So he sent David away from him and gave him command over a thousand men, and David led the troops in their campaigns. ¹⁴In everything he did he had great success, because the LORD was with him. ¹⁵When Saul saw how successful he was, he was afraid of him. ¹⁶But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he led them in their campaigns.

V.10 The evil spirit was “from” the Lord in that **it was allowed by God to harass Saul.**

KEY: When others attack, remain steadfast in your calling.

David’s integrity is on display here—he knows that his calling is from God, and no one can take that away from him.

3. David’s Humility and Honor

1 Samuel 24:1-7 After Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, “David is in the Desert of En Gedi.” ²So Saul took three thousand able young men from all Israel and set out to look for David and his men near the Crags of the Wild Goats.

³He came to the sheep pens along the way; a cave was there, and Saul went in to relieve himself. David and his men were far back in the cave. ⁴The men said, “This is the day the LORD spoke of when he said to you, ‘I will give your enemy into your hands for you to deal with as you wish.’” Then David crept up unnoticed and cut off a corner of Saul’s robe.

⁵Afterward, David was conscience-stricken for having cut off a corner of his robe. ⁶He said to his men, “The LORD forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the LORD’s anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the LORD.” ⁷With these words David sharply rebuked his men and did not allow them to attack Saul. And Saul left the cave and went his way.

This moment is pivotal —David had every reason to act in self-defense or vengeance, but he chose **honor over harm, waiting over rushing, and humility over pride.**

- **Honoring God’s appointment—even when it’s painful—is a test of spiritual maturity.**
- We are not called to take vengeance into our own hands.

4. The Final Test – Trusting God’s Timing

1 Samuel 24:8-15 Then David went out of the cave and called out to Saul, “My lord the king!” When Saul looked behind him, David bowed down and prostrated himself with his face to the ground. ⁹He said to Saul, “Why do you listen when men say, ‘David is bent on harming you’? ¹⁰This day you have seen with your own eyes how the LORD delivered you into my hands in the cave. Some urged me to kill you, but I spared you; I said, ‘I will not lay my hand on my lord, because he is the LORD’s anointed.’ ¹¹See, my father, look at this piece of your robe in my hand! I cut off the corner of your robe but did not kill you. See that there is nothing in my hand to indicate that I am guilty of wrongdoing or rebellion. I have not wronged you, but you are hunting me down to take my life. ¹²May the LORD judge between you and me. And may the LORD avenge the wrongs you have done to me, but my hand will not touch you. ¹³As the old saying goes, ‘From evildoers come evil deeds,’ so my hand will not touch you.

¹⁴“Against whom has the king of Israel come out? Who are you pursuing? A dead dog? A flea? ¹⁵May the LORD be our judge and decide between us. May he consider my cause and uphold it; may he vindicate me by delivering me from your hand.”

KEY: Trust God’s timing, even when it’s hard.

- **David refused to let Saul change him.**
- Waiting on God’s timing is hard, but it’s the path that leads to true victory.

LIFE POINT: The path to true greatness in God’s kingdom is not through power and control, but through humility, integrity, and faith in His plan.