

Saul – Life Lessons from a Loser

Jealousy

Jealousy: feeling resentment against someone because of that person's rivalry, success, or advantages.

1 Sam. 18:7 As they danced, they sang: 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands.' ⁸Saul was very angry; this refrain galled him. '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 jealous eye on David.

1 Sam. 18:12 Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with David but had left Saul. So 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.

1 Sam. 18:1 ...Jonathan became one in spirit with David, and he loved him as himself.

1 Sam. 18:28 When Saul realized that the Lord was with David and that his daughter Michal loved David, ²⁹Saul became still more afraid of him, and he remained his enemy the rest of his days. ³⁰"The Philistine commanders continued to go out to battle, and as often as they did, David met with more success than the rest of Saul's officers, and his name became well known.

The destructive power of jealousy:

- Jealousy kills peace.
- Jealousy kills contentment.
- Jealousy kills relationships.
- Jealousy kills gratitude.
- Jealousy robs me of opportunities.
- Jealousy diminishes my influence.

How to overcome jealousy:

Honestly identify jealousy.

Celebrate the blessings, strengths and accomplishments of others.

Rom. 12:15 *Rejoice with those who rejoice.*

Think abundance, not scarcity.

Scarcity mentality: limited supply.

Abundance mentality: unlimited supply.

Scarcity mentality: I've got to keep what I have.

Abundance mentality: I get to give what I have.

Scarcity mentality: I can't afford to tithe.

Abundance mentality: I can't afford not to tithe.

Scarcity mentality: If they are blessed, there's not enough left for me.

Abundance mentality: Thank God, we are all going to be blessed.

Scarcity mentality: I can't lose what I have. What if I never get any more?

Abundance mentality: I can't give too much. God has more than enough.

Scarcity mentality: jealous when others are blessed.

Abundance mentality: celebrate when others are blessed.

Be grateful.

Stop comparing myself to others.

Comparison leads to discouragement and depression.

When I compare my strengths to someone else's weaknesses it leads to self-deception and pride.

Embrace God's plan for my life.

Eph. 2:10 "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work He does, the good work He has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing." (The Message)

Eph. 1:17-19 "I do more than thank. I ask—ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing Him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is He is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life He has for His followers, oh, the utter extravagance of His work in us who trust him—endless energy, boundless strength!" (The Message)