

Life of David

Lesson 15

Text

1 Samuel 19:1-24 (also read Psalm 59:1-17)

Background

Last week, verse 7 changed everything for David. It reads, “And the women sang to one another as they celebrated, ‘Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his ten thousands.’” From that point, Saul’s attitude toward David changed and jealousy was a primary condition. It tells us further in verse 9, “And Saul eyed David from that day on.” Let the scheming and attempts on taking David’s life begin!

Intertwined in this is the blossoming friendship with Saul’s son Jonathan and David. This friendship is really God’s providence as it was used to save David from a variety of troubles imposed by Saul. You can read more about that in the coming chapters. Keep an eye on the friendship of these two men. The men of the church need more of this type of friendship more than ever!

The first attempt at David’s life was also documented in chapter 18. Simply put, while David was ministering to Saul with his lyre, Saul tried to impale David to the wall with a spear. Jealousy is truly an ugly and dangerous sinful condition! When that didn’t work, Saul schemed to get him killed at the hand of the Philistines by distracting him with the marriage to his daughter, Michal. All in all, Saul’s attempts continue to backfire and at the end of chapter 18 we read, “Saul was even more afraid of David. So Saul was David’s enemy continually.” As we will soon see, Saul wasn’t done. Let’s read on in chapter 19 and see what he gets up to there.

Day 1 - Read and Listen

1. Read and/or listen to the passage twice. If possible, use different translations. I highly recommend having the passage read to you. Many apps, including the Blue Letter Bible, have a feature that will read the Bible to you. Meditate and pray on the passage.

Day 2 - Observing the Text

2. Who are the characters listed in the passage? As much as the passage tells you, write down any titles, traits, or additional information about each of the characters in the narrative.

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3. Where does the narrative take place? List out any locations mentioned. To be more specific, study a map from the timeframe of 1 Samuel (approximately 1105 - 971 BC) and see if you can find the locations on a map. Write down any observations from this exercise.
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4. Summarize the main plot points from the passage in the space below.
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Day 3 - Understanding the Narrative

5. Name one or more of the conflicts from the passage and how they were resolved or left unresolved.
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6. How does the narrative fit into what you already learned about 1 Samuel? Consider, if applicable, the following: How does the narrative tie to the larger picture of a coming royal priesthood? Do you see any foreshadowing of Jesus as King?
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Day 4 - Additional Study

7. Take note of any repeated words, thoughts, or phrases in our passage this week. Write those down below.

8. Did any parts of the passage you read make you think about other stories in the Bible? This includes similar narratives, but could also include similarity in lessons being learned by different people at different times. We call these links “purposeful parallels.” If so, write those down below.

9. **Word Studies:** Use the “Blue Letter Bible” or your favorite word study method to look up any words of your choice in the passage. Be prepared to share your findings with your group. Remember, this is the Old Testament. You will be looking up Hebrew words.

Day 5 - Life Application

Reading the Bible should change you! The purpose of reading any passage or passages is to gain life changing applications you must consider for your own life.

10. **Application:** Read Psalm 59 in light of 1 Samuel 9:11. Write down your reflections on what you can learn from David’s writings (Psalm 59) in light of distressing times in your own life.

11. **Optional:** Write down any additional life applications from your study time this week down below.

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