

## Family Troubles: Love, Jealousy and Fear 1 Samuel 18:1-16

### INTRODUCTION

Two questions:

- Do you ever struggle with \_\_\_\_\_?
- Does it make you \_\_\_\_\_?

Today we are going to be looking at the topics of love, jealousy and fear as seen through the relationships of Jonathan, David and Saul.

Here's my sermon **summary**:

\_\_\_\_\_ brings you \_\_\_\_\_ to people, while \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_ will drive you \_\_\_\_\_.

**Love, jealousy and fear all have to do with how you will relate to others. They also have to do with how you will relate to God, and how God will use you in this life.**

### I. Jonathan's \_\_\_\_\_ for David (18:1-4)

We studied these verses in detail last week and noted how the key words ***knit, loved, covenant and robe*** describe Jonathan's relationship with David. For this morning, we revisit these verses and trace the implications of Jonathan's love for David.

**Jonathan and David enjoyed a special friendship which was all the more remarkable because Jonathan was next in line for the throne, and God was blessing David with such success.** If anyone should have been jealous or afraid of David, it was Jonathan. But instead of giving in to jealousy or fear, Jonathan reached outward with love.

#### A. Love seeks \_\_\_\_\_ with others (18:1)

#### B. Love puts others \_\_\_\_\_ yourself (18:2-4)

You are to seek the honor of other people before yourself. **It's not enough that you just don't mind the other person getting the honor, but you should actually prefer to honor others above yourself.** That's really hard to do, isn't it? Perhaps only with our children do we really get this right. We want things better for them than ourselves. **But true love makes you put all others before yourself.**

## II. Saul's \_\_\_\_\_ of David (18:5-11)

The Bible gives a stern warning about the destructive nature of **jealousy**: ***“Wrath is cruel, anger is overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy?”*** (Proverbs 27:4)

A. Jealousy \_\_\_\_\_ you from taking \_\_\_\_\_  
in other people's \_\_\_\_\_ (18:5)

B. Jealousy \_\_\_\_\_ you of the joy of your own  
\_\_\_\_\_ (18:6-9)

**Country music changes things.** At least it did in Israel; at least it did for Saul (***and because it changed things for Saul, it changed them for David***). When war season was over (18:6) and the troops were returning from the Philistine campaign, the Israelite women came out to welcome them home. They danced, sang, and celebrated. The text includes a portion of their victory song – see 18:7.

**It's hard to count your own blessings when you're busy counting someone else's.**

C. Left unchecked, jealousy will make you \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ at others (18:10-11)

**Sin cherished in the heart will invariably express itself through the mouth and the hands.** In Saul's case, jealousy in Saul's heart burned so bitterly that it took only a single day for his envy to vent itself against David.

## III. Saul's \_\_\_\_\_ of David (18:12-16)

A. Fear keeps you from \_\_\_\_\_ God at \_\_\_\_\_  
in \_\_\_\_\_ (18:12-14)

Jealousy leads to fear, not the fear like we looked at last time where the Israelites were afraid of Goliath. No, this is a different kind of fear – **the fear of being left out, fear that the other person will get all the attention, fear that the other person will get the credit or honor, fear of being dismissed, discounted or overlooked.** Jealousy leads to fear, and fear will blind you to what the Lord is doing around you.

B. Fear keeps you from \_\_\_\_\_ others as you  
should (18:15-16)

## CONCLUSION

We have this remarkable passage where we see Jonathan's love for David, Saul's jealousy of David, and then Saul's resulting fear of David.

And it illustrates for us a very simple **truth**:

\_\_\_\_\_ brings you \_\_\_\_\_ to people, while \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_ will drive you \_\_\_\_\_.