

When Jealousy, Instead of Jesus, Takes the Wheel

1 Samuel 18

1. In response to David's success, Jonathan responded with:

a. Deference and friendship (v. 1-4)

2. In response to David's success, Saul responded with:

a. Jealousy (v. 5-9)

b. Fear (v. 10-16)

c. Scheming (v. 17-30)

Small Group Questions:

- 1.** Why do you think sudden success or popularity can change people? How do you think you might respond if you were suddenly famous? What do you notice about how David handles it?
- 2.** Think about a time when someone you know succeeded or got something you wanted. What was your honest reaction? Is it easier or harder when they are close to you?
- 3.** What allows a person to genuinely celebrate the success of someone who might surpass them?
- 4.** In what areas of life are people most tempted to be jealous of others (career, ministry, parenting, finances, influence, etc.)? In what areas are you personally most tempted?
- 5.** What practices and habits help cultivate contentment in a culture that constantly encourages comparison?
- 6.** What happens spiritually when our identity becomes tied to our success, influence, or recognition rather than to God? How does knowing who you are in Christ help fight jealousy or comparison in everyday life?