Sermon Discussion Questions
Handling Hate!
1 Samuel 18
January 28, 2018

1. Read the passage in Matthew 5:43-44 that Jeremy read at the beginning of his sermon. Describe the characteristics of an enemy. Isn't it impossible to love someone you hate? Explain.

2. Remember the Maxwell Maltz statistic—that 95% of people in our society struggle with feelings of inadequacy, inferiority, and insecurity? *(1st of all—I'd like to know who the other 5% are—and are they really out there :-)).* Why is this a struggle for people? Why is this a struggle for Christians—aren't we supposed to feel the opposite in Christ?

3. Jeremy mentioned four ways we compensate for these feelings of inadequacy, inferiority, and insecurity: (1) shyness, (2) being critical, (3) addictions, and (4) aggressive behavior. Is there one of these you use to compensate for those negative feelings you may have of yourself? Explain why you think that is and why you have chosen the one to use in compensating.

4. To deal with jealousy and anger, like David had the Holy Spirit giving him victory, how can we reach around to the Holy Spirit to throttle us (remember the go-cart story) to have victory?

5. When Saul was getting so angry and literally hating David, do you have any reaction to how David reacted to Saul's hatred (1 Samuel 18:18, 23, 26-27); doesn't David seem indifferent to Saul's hatred? What can we learn from David's reaction to Saul?

6. That last point that Jeremy made was "Hatred leads to murder." Agree or disagree with this statement, "Jeremy's point is not true." Discuss.

   • Read Matthew 5:21-24. What does that have to say about having murder in our hearts. Have you seen this in others or in yourself? And what does Jesus say we need to do to address it in this passage?

   • Now read 1 John 3:15. Work through what it means that the person described here does not have eternal life abiding in them?

7. What are some ways you use to deal with jealousy, anger, and hatred in your own life that would help the rest in the group deal with theirs.