

1 Samuel 18:1-30

David had success for the Lord was with Him

Saul did not do what God told him to do. Saul did do what God did not tell him to do.

Saul lost his favor with God because he was scared (lack of faith), disobedient, and impetuous.

David and Jonathan trusted God and had faith in God. God blessed and used both of these men and gave them favor and victories.

Do you have faith in God right now in life? Do you seek God and His direction? Do you obey God?

If you follow God, it may be difficult, but there is no place more joyful and secure than in God's will!

In your life right now are you not seeking God's direction? Are you doing things your own way instead of God's way? Are you being disobedient to God? How is that going for you?

Vs 1-5 God gives us friendships in life that are sometimes closer than family. Who is the person that you believe God put in your life to be a great friend and help you walk close with the Lord?

David was successful with Goliath and everyone wants to be friends with him. Sometimes, when you are successful, people will want to be around you, but that does not mean they are your true friend. Often, people feel threatened by others who are successful. Whether we are successful or struggling, we need to love God and love the people. This is what true friendship looks like, and it honors God.

God gave David a good friend in Jonathan and Jonathan a good friend in David.

It appears that Jonathan was a true friend to David and truly cared for him. Jonathan was in line to be the king. Jonathan sought God and humbled himself and did not make ambition his goal. He loved God and loved his friend. He passed down his princely robe, armor, and sword and gave it to his friend.

God blessed and gave favor to David. This was prophesied by God. And, David sought after God. Jesus would be from this line.

Vs 6-16 David wanted to please God. David wanted to fight for God. Saul wanted power and position. He did not seek after God. God gave David favor. God would take away Saul's kingdom.

If we seek after our own name or the things of this world, we will always be dissatisfied and fall. We might have success for a little while, but it is fleeting.

Do you seek after your success being obedience to God or do you see success about gaining stuff? Let me word it a different way, is your God the one true living God or is your God the things of this world?

Saul wanted the glory. He did not want David or God getting the glory. **Do you give God the glory or do you want it for yourself?**

Saul was jealous, prideful, and he felt threatened. He was not showing godly heart or character.

God will not bless a heart that does not seek after Him. God has warned Saul, but Saul loves to seek after Saul. Saul needs to seek after God. Are you seeking after God or yourself right now?

Saul was jealous and tried to kill David. Seeking after the world and not trusting in God will drive you crazy!

Saul was not seeking the Lord or fearful of the Lord. Saul was scared of David and was jealous of him.

Saul sent David to the front lines hoping he would be killed. God blessed and protected and helped David. Saul should have sought after God but he is bitter.

Ephesians 4:25 *Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. 26 Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, 27 and give no opportunity to the devil. 28 Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. 29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. 32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.*

Vs 17-30 Saul starts scheming and plotting instead of seeking after the Lord.

Saul is bitter and selfish and he is not thinking well.

David was humble. Saul took David's humble response and gave his daughter to someone else.

Saul kept trying to use his daughters for gain. This shows how dark his heart was.

Vs 22 Saul tries to entangle others in this manipulation. David was humble. Saul was prideful.

Saul wants to win. Saul wants David to be killed.

David keeps doing good, he seeks the Lord, he is humble. He is victorious in battle. Saul keeps being bitter and jealous.

David loved God. God protected and used David for His glory.

Do you seek after God first in your life? Have you asked Jesus to be the Lord and King of your life and do you follow and obey King Jesus?

Do you manipulate people for selfish gain or do you humbly seek God and love others?

Do you seek after the world or seek after God?

Proverbs 11:2 *When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom.*

Proverbs 16:18 *Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.*

Proverbs 29:23 *One's pride will bring him low, but he who is lowly in spirit will obtain honor.*

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 *But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*