

Deception and Covenant Relationships

1 Samuel 19:1-20, 20:1-34

- David's sacrifice was more pleasing to God than Saul's (1 Samuel 18:8)
- Saul becomes Jealous. Saul eyed David from that day one (1 Samuel 18:9)
- Saul forfeits his sacred kingly role by becoming jealous and not repenting
- Saul tries to kill David by orchestrating battles with the Philistines.
- David and Jonathan's covenant. As soon as he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David 3. Then Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him as his own soul. He stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, and his armor and even his bow and his belt. 1 Samuel 18:1,3

1 Samuel 19:1-6

¹Saul told his son Jonathan and all the servants to go to David's house to kill him. But Jonathan had taken a great liking to David ²and warned him, "My father Saul is looking for a chance to kill you. Be on your guard tomorrow morning; go into hiding and stay there. ³I will go out and stand with my father in the field where you are. I'll speak to him about you and will tell you what I find out."

⁴Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, "Let not the king do wrong to his servant David; he has not wronged you, and what he has done has benefited you greatly. ⁵He took his life in his hands when he killed the Philistine. The Lord won a great victory for all Israel, and you saw it and were glad. Why then would you do wrong to an innocent man like David by killing him for no reason?" Saul listened to Jonathan and David returned to King Saul's presence as before. There was war again with the Philistines and God gave David victory.

1 Samuel 19:9-20

Then a harmful spirit from the Lord came upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his spear in his hand. And David was playing the lyre. ¹⁰And Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he eluded David so that he struck the spear into the wall. And David fled and escaped that night. ¹¹Saul sent men to David's house to watch it and to kill him in the morning. But Michal, David's wife, warned him, "If you don't run for your life tonight, tomorrow you'll be killed." ¹²So Michal let David down through a window, and he fled and escaped. ¹³Michal took an image and laid it on the bed and put a pillow of goat's hair at its head and covered it with clothes. ¹⁴When Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, "He is sick." ¹⁵So Saul sent messengers back to see David saying, "bring him up to me in the bed so I may kill him." ¹⁶And when the messengers came in, behold the image was in the bed, with the pillow of goats' hair at its head. ¹⁷Saul said to Michal, "why have you deceived me thus and let my enemy go, so that he has escaped?" And Michal answered Saul, "He said to me, Let me go. Why should I kill you?" ¹⁸Now David fled and escaped, and he came to Samuel at Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and lived at Naioth. ¹⁹It was told to Saul, "Behold, David is at Naioth in Ramah. ²⁰Saul sent messengers to take David and the spirit of God came upon the messengers and they prophesied. Saul sent more messengers and the same thing happened. The spirit came upon them all and they all prophesied before the Lord. Eventually Saul went to Ramah and he also began to prophesy.

David knew that Saul was pursuing him in Ramah and returned to Jonathan. Jonathan still does not know that Saul had sent messengers to kill him. Saul kept this from him.

1 Samuel 20:1-8

¹ Then David fled from Naioth at Ramah and went to Jonathan and asked, "What have I done? What is my crime? How have I wronged your father, that he is trying to kill me?" ² "Never!" Jonathan replied. "You are not going to die! Look, my father doesn't do anything, great or small, without letting me know. Why would he hide this from me? It isn't so!" "Whatever you want me to do, I'll do for you." ³ But David took an oath and said, "Your father knows very well that I have found favor in your eyes, and he has said to himself, 'Jonathan must not know this or he will be grieved.' Yet as surely as the Lord lives and as you live, there is only a step between me and death." ⁵ So David said, "Look, tomorrow is the New Moon feast, and I am supposed to dine with the king; but let me go and hide in the field until the evening of the day after tomorrow. ⁶ If your father misses me at all, tell him, 'David earnestly asked my permission to hurry to Bethlehem, his hometown, because an annual sacrifice is being made there for his whole clan.' ⁷ If he says, 'Very well,' then your servant is safe. But if he loses his temper, you can be sure that he is determined to harm me. ⁸ As for you, show kindness to your servant, for you have brought him into a covenant with you before the LORD. If I am guilty, then kill me yourself! Why hand me over to your father?"

1 Samuel 20:12-16.

¹² Then Jonathan said to David, "I swear by the Lord, the God of Israel, that I will surely sound out my father by this time the day after tomorrow! May the Lord be with you as he has been with my father. ¹⁴ But show me unfailing kindness like the Lord's kindness as long as I live, so that I may not be killed, ¹⁵ and do not ever cut off your kindness from my family not even when the Lord has cut off every one of David's enemies from the face of the earth." ¹⁶ And Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, "May the Lord take vengeance on David's enemies."

1 Samuel 20:25-26

²⁵ The next day David's place was empty at the banquet. ²⁶ Yet Saul did not say anything that day, for he thought, "something has happened to him. He is not clean." ²⁷ But on the second day, the day after the new moon, David's place was empty. And Saul said to Jonathan his son, "Why has not the son of Jesse come to the meal, either yesterday or today?" ²⁸ Jonathan answered Saul, "David earnestly asked leave of me to go to Bethlehem." ²⁹ He said, "Let me go, for our clan holds a sacrifice in the city, and my brother has commanded me to be there. So now, if I have found favor in your eyes let me get away and see my brothers." ³⁰ Then Saul's anger kindled and he said, "You, son of a perverse, rebellious woman, do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of your mother's nakedness." ³¹ For as long as the son of Jesse lives on earth, neither you nor your kingdom shall be established. Therefore send and bring him to me, for he shall surely die. ³² Then Jonathan asked, "Why should he be put to death? What has he done?" ³³ His father hurled a spear at him to strike him. So Jonathan knew that his father determined to put David to death. He was grieved and did not eat the second day of the feast. For his father had caused disgrace upon David. ³⁶ In the morning Jonathan went out into the field to the appointment with

David. And he said to his boy, "run and find the arrows that I shoot." As the boy ran, he shot an arrow way beyond him. ³⁷And Jonathan called after the boy and said, "Hurry, quick do not stay."

⁴¹ As soon as the boy had gone, David rose from beside the stone heap and fell on his face to the ground and bowed three times. And they kissed one another and wept with one another. David weeping the most. ⁴³ Then Jonathan said go in peace because we have sworn both of us in the name of the Lord saying "The Lord shall be between me and you and between my offspring and your offspring forever." And he rose and departed.

Chapter 19

- Jonathan's intention by talking was to reconcile Saul and David to each other. Jonathan loved David and he loved his father. That day Saul seemed to listen to his son and made an oath to Jonathan that he would not kill David. (1 Samuel 19:4-5)
- Saul sends a group of messengers to watch David's house. Unbeknownst to Jonathan, Saul had no intention of keeping the oath he made. He was showing that he was listening on the outside but in his heart he lied to his son. (1 Samuel 19:11.)
- Saul immediately appeared at Michal's house when he heard that David had fled accusing her of wrong when she hadn't done anything. Though he lied, used deception, used her as a snare to entrap David in a marriage, Saul was the one who deceived her but made her feel guilty as though she had deceived her father by wanting to save her own husband's life. 1 Samuel 18:20
- He deceived her at the highest level. He didn't care about the happiness or well-being of her future. He accused her and made her think she should have chosen her father over her righteous husband who until now has never done anything wrong to Saul. Example of Abusive husband.

Jonathan is Kept in the Dark

- Jonathan is kept in the dark of the latest happenings. He does not know that Saul sent men to David's house to take him from his bed.
- David runs back to Jonathan. David asks him, "What have I done?" "What sin have I committed against your father?" Jonathan is convinced that his father had repented after their last conversation. But this is not the case.
- David reminds Jonathan of the covenant he made with him before God (1 Samuel 20:8).
- Jonathan wants to do the right thing but His loyalty is being tested.
- David was gently trying to break the news to Jonathan that Saul had been hiding the truth from him.

David's Plan:

- Jonathan trusts their friendship and submits to David's plan for Jonathan to test Saul's motives. (1 Samuel 20:5)
- Jonathan vows to do the right thing even though he may have to stand against his father. (1 Samuel 20:4)

Jonathan has a choice.

- Imagine if you had a leader that you were close to, or even your own father, who you caught doing something wrong, like stealing or taking something that did not belong to him. The leader asks you not to disclose this information. This is an abuse of power. (1 Samuel 20:30)
- Saul was making his son feel guilty, using his position to ask his own son to go against what he knew was right. This is a situation that parents should never put their children in.
- Saul hurls the spear at Jonathan out of rage (1 Samuel 20:33). Jonathan realized who his father really was. Jonathan rose from the table in fierce anger and ate no food the second day of the feast. He was grieved for David because his father had disgraced him” (1 Samuel 20:34).
- Women and children have had parents who have used guilt and their parental role to get them to do what they wanted them to do. When the women had a chance to study and go to school, the parents used guilt and manipulation to keep them close to them to serve their own needs.

Jonathan Meets David

In the morning Jonathan went to the field to the appointment with David. By the way the young boy with him shot the arrow and chased it, David knew Saul's reaction was against him. As soon as the boy had gone, David rose from beside the stone heap and fell on his face to the ground and bowed three times and they kissed and wept. David wept the most. (1 Samuel 20:41). "Go in peace, because we have sworn both of us in the name of the Lord saying the Lord shall be between me and you and between my offspring and your offspring forever." David rose and departed and Jonathan went into the city. (1 Samuel 20:42).

- Jonathan knew that nothing could be found wrong with David's behavior to justify his father's choice to put him to death. Choosing to stand and do the right thing rather than going along with doing what his father wanted was a situation that forged Jonathan's identity that day.
- Putting anyone above God and being asked to do what they want over God's will is a challenge we will face in life.

Deuteronomy 10:12 And now, Israel what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. 13. And to observe the Lord's commands and decrees I am giving you today for your own good.

Turning Away from God

- If Saul's following his own narrative, what he believed to be true. led him to not care about his own children, what destruction can charting our own path cause in our lives and the lives

of others. Sometimes we think that it is too difficult to follow God's path for our lives, not seeing how it will affect us and others when don't trust God.

- Satan is God's enemy and he knows that God created His most special creation (man and woman) so He could have a close relationship with them. Satan hates God and he knows the only way he can hurt God is by turning His creation (people) away from Him to follow our own

Revelation 12:9 The great dragon was hurled down-that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth and his angels with him.

Godly Relationships

- God uses Godly relationships to help us stay on course with God when there are forces pulling us to do what is not right. Jonathan's friendship with David and the covenant he made before God helped him stay on the right track. (1 Samuel 20:16)
- David was a great encouragement to Jonathan when his own father lost sight of his sacred role to lead. Jonathan sensed the presence of God in David's life. God used David's friendship with Jonathan to help protect David and to save his life. (1 Samuel 18:1)
- A friendship is a means of strength and support between two people. They helped each other. (1 Samuel 19:4)
- When you become vulnerable with God and also another Godly person and share the deepest parts of ourselves, great change can happen. We let that person speak into our lives and we are propelled forward to make changes. Being open to Godly friendships helps you to grow and Our friendships push us forward.
- Jonathan and David's friendship was not a friendship of emotion or convenience (1 Samuel 20:42)
- They had a covenantal friendship. They loved and trusted each other. (1 Samuel 20:16)

Prayer

1. Trusting God's Narrative for our Lives Instead of Finding Another Path for our life

- Putting God first above everything else.
- Obeying God in the midst of pressure and other powers
- Conviction that God is good and will protect us no matter what comes
- Trusting God's plan for our lives

2. Godly Relationships

- Becoming supportive friends to each other
- Becoming vulnerable and open/building trusting and open relationships
- Our friendships would produce growth
- Our discipleship relationships with others
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3. The Broken-Hearted

- Those who have been neglected and abused by loved ones and parents
- For Life Church to be used to heal and restore broken lives.

4. Life Church

- A heart to read God's word
- Break our hearts for salvation for the lost and unsaved family members
- The surrounding community of Sungei Way

5. Ministries

- Life Explorers
- Redeeming Roses
- Destiny Kids & Teens
- Sunday School
- Lifeline
- Worship

5. Those Who are Not Well

- Si Yun (colon cancer)
- Jayden
- Lee Kim Sang & Lee Khay Chen (Recco's dad and brother: Pray for total healing and strength for Recco's mom)
- Rowena's aunty Ana (4th stage lung cancer)
- Suba's knee
- Ragu (chicken pox)

6. Covid-19 Pandemic

- Healing for each state
- Wisdom for vaccine
- Economy/those who are out of work

7. Malaysia

- Salvation and religious freedom