

1 SAMUEL 18-20 LIVING WITH THE ENEMY

Do you love Jesus? What does loving Jesus look like?

Read 1 Samuel 18.

1. How do the following people feel about David? Why?

- Jonathan

- The people of Israel and Judah

- Saul's servants

- Michal

2. How does Saul feel about David?

3. How is the way Saul feels about David driven by how everyone else feels about him? (See vv. 8-9, 15-16, 28-29.)

4. What other deeper reason is also behind Saul's reaction to David? (See vv. 12, 28-29; also 16:13-14.)

Read 1 Samuel 19.

5. What does Saul plan in response to David's success? What is the outcome of Saul's plan?

6. What words would you use to describe Saul's actions and attitudes throughout this chapter?

7. Do you think Saul's plan ever had a chance? Why, or why not?

Read John 14:15-26.

8. What does it mean to love Jesus, God's anointed king? What must it therefore mean to not love Jesus? (See verse 24.)

9. How does this shape your thinking on what it means to answer that question, "Do you love Jesus?"

10. What help will Jesus give us to love him?

Implications

(Choose one or more of the following to think about further or to discuss in your group.)

- How has what you have learned in this study changed the way you feel about what it means to love Jesus?

- In what situations do you find it hardest to love Jesus by obeying him? How might knowing that Jesus loves you and has given you his Spirit help you in those situations?

- A friend of yours has stopped coming to church, has started living with his girlfriend, and is often drunk on the weekends, but swears that deep down inside he still loves Jesus. What do you say to your friend, and how might you help him from this passage?

- Garry has been part of church for years, but still struggles with sin in many areas of his life. One day a friend sits him down, reads him John 14:21 and tells him that because of his losing battles with sin he can't be a Christian. You walk in on them halfway through the conversation. What do you say?

Give thanks and pray

- Thank God that he has given us his Spirit to help us love Jesus by obeying him as king.
- Apologize to God for the times you have claimed to love Jesus but have in fact been rejecting his authority over you rather than living under it.
- Pray that, by his Spirit, God would help you to love obeying Jesus.