



David, son of Jesse, King of the Twelve Tribes of Israel will forever be remembered. He tended sheep. He fought giants. He betrayed his family. He forgave his enemies. He battled his son. He loved God. He wavered in faith. and he would somehow be forever known as the man after God's own heart. Join us this fall at CPC as we study the Rise and Fall of King David.

WEEK 5: SUNDAY, October 8th

Why do Relationships Fall Apart?

1 Samuel 18: 6-16

Let's Warm Up

- 1.) What are the silliest things that you have gotten into a serious fight/argument with someone about that now you can't believe you cared so much about?
- 2.) Are you a sports fanatic for any team? (extra points if you say "Duke") Why do you think people become so emotionally invested in rooting for their team and especially hating other teams?

Let's Get Into the Word!

Read: 1 Samuel 18: 6-16

- 3.) What causes Saul and David's relationship to break down? Is it all Saul's fault?
- 4.) Obviously, jealousy was a big force in Saul's life. He hears what people say about David and it really bothers him. Do you think jealousy is really that serious a problem? Why or why not?
- 5.) We live in one of the most competitive environments in human history. Living here, do you feel like you internalize that atmosphere? Have you become more competitive since you came to NOVA? Has it changed your expectations for what is normal or what you need?

RISE AND FALL OF KING



6.) Imagine one of your closest friends achieved some huge personal or professional success that you yourself are wishing for. What percentage happy vs. what percentage jealous would you be? What keeps us from really rooting unconditionally for the success of others?

In Samuel 24, David has the chance to kill Saul, but instead just sneaks in and steals part of his cloak to show Saul he has nothing to fear from him. Read 1 Samuel 24: 8-11

7.) What does David do to try to mend his relationship with Saul? What steps does he take?

8.) David still sees Saul as his “father” and God’s “anointed?” What happens to you when you are angry with someone? Would you say that you still see them fairly? Compassionately? Why or Why not?

9.) Can you have forgiveness without reconciliation? Do you need to repair the relationship with someone before you can “get over it?”

10.) What are the things that people do that make it the hardest for you to love them? What are your relational pet peeves? The things that really turn you off to someone?

11.) David takes a huge risk in going to see Saul. Is this an example we should follow? When or when not should we open ourselves up to people?

12.) The work of forgiveness obviously requires something miraculous inside of us to make happen. Why does Christianity particularly equip us with the internal resources to do this difficult work?