

== IN SEARCH OF A KING ==

Understanding 1 Samuel

Small group questions

1 Samuel 18-31 The King is dead, long live the King

Leaders - if the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer - please contact the bishop!

1. Just how damaging can jealousy and revenge be in relationships?

What is the passage about?

- You may like to skim read chs 18-31 and recall:
 - a. Saul's jealousy
 - b. David's mercy
 - c. Saul's end
- a. What are your initial reactions to this passage? Is anything unclear to you in this text/story?

What does it teach us about God? *review and discuss*

- a. Jealousy is a curse
- b. Sweet revenge?
- c. The trouble with not being King

How does it point us to Jesus?

- a. The cost of following King David
- b. The cost of following King Jesus

Reflections

2. How would you try and help someone whose life is being torn about by their jealousy/revenge/hate?
3. David demonstrated extraordinary restraint in sparing Saul's life when he had ample opportunity - not once, but twice. How do you think that was possible - especially given the violence of the times? Read Romans 12:17-21 and explore the implications.
4. Part of Saul's whole problem was surely that from the beginning he failed to understand what it meant to be King under the overarching Kingship of God. He wanted to be - and assumed the position of - King in his own right. Discuss with the group those areas in which you still want to be King?

SERIES CONCLUSION - *recap*

1. Humble ourselves before the Lord and _____
2. Like it or not, God is King. Draw near to him and _____
3. We may get what we want, but _____
4. Consider what _____
5. To obey is better than _____
6. An _____ rescue from an _____ God

7. Who is King? The _____ and the _____

What have you learnt from the 1 Samuel series? Any highlights? Anything that has transformed you??