#### Lesson 5:

#### Sauls’ Jealousy of David

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

1 Samuel 18:1-9

MEMORY WORK:

Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

God does not want me to have bad thoughts and feelings about someone else when that person has something I want or when he gets to do something I want to do but can’t. God doesn’t want me to be jealous of others.

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| **LESSON STARTS HERE** |

INTRODUCTION:

Review last week’s lesson.

Sometimes other kids receive awards or special gifts that you may not get. Sometimes it seems like grownups pay more attention to other kids [maybe siblings] than they do to you. When that happens, you might get angry and maybe even say or do something hurtful. That’s being jealous. Remember (in the book of Genesis) the story of Joseph getting special attention and a special coat from his father—and how jealous his brothers were of him? They threw him in a pit and then sold him as a slave because they were so angry! Today we’re going to talk about what King Saul did because he was jealous of David.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. As king of Israel, Saul made several really bad choices. God was very unhappy, and He “rejected him from being king over Israel” (1 Samuel 15:35-16:1a).

**NOTE:** Two Hebrew words in the Old Testament are translated “reject” or “rejection.” Both words focus on the actions that demonstrate one’s attitude. God was “casting off” Saul because He despised Saul’s bad choices and wrong attitudes. Throughout the Psalms, we can learn that being rejected by God should bring about sincere repentance (Psalm 43:1- 5). Hosea 4:6 tells us that the wicked are those who choose not to obey God (reject God and His Word) and do not like God’s discipline or instruction (also Proverbs 3:11). Hosea goes on to say that those who reject the Lord will be rejected by Him.

1. After Samuel told Saul that God would not help him any longer (1 Samuel 16:14), because of his disobedience (1 Samuel 13 and 15), Saul changed. He became moody, bitter, angry, and difficult to get along with. At their suggestion, Saul told his servants to find someone who could play the harp well, hoping that its music would provide some comfort and peace to him. A young shepherd named David was brought to play the harp for Saul. Whenever Saul was upset, David would come to the palace and calm the King with his music. It seems that David went back and forth between the palace and taking care of his father’s sheep until King Saul asked Jesse to allow David to stay at the palace (1 Samuel 17:15; 18:2).
2. Then David killed Goliath, and he instantly became a national hero (1 Samuel 18:6-7). King Saul appointed David the leader of the Israelite army, and David led them in great victories against their enemies. But Saul began to hate David because he had become a success. Saul became very jealous of David, and he “eyed David” suspiciously from then on (1 Samuel 18:8- 9). He was jealous of David because: (a) David was becoming more and more popular with the people (1 Samuel 18:5-8,16), (b) his daughter Michal loved David (18:28-29), (c) he knew the Lord was with David and not with him (18:12,14-15,28), and (d) his son Jonathan was a very close friend of David (18:1,3-4; 20:30).
3. Saul tried to kill David twice at the palace by throwing a spear at him (1 Samuel 18:10-11; 19:8- 10). He even tried to kill David in the house where he lived with Michal (19:11-18). David got away from Saul each time because God was protecting him. [NOTE: Go into as much detail with each of these incidents as is appropriate for your class.] Saul became so jealous of David that the jealousy controlled his life.
4. Jealousy or envy is not being willing to share someone’s love or attention. It’s being hateful toward someone because of something he has that you want or has done that you wish you did. It usually leads to other attitudes that God does not like: anger, hatred, wanting the other person to be hurt or to suffer in some way, unkindness. Jealousy can destroy families. Examples: Joseph’s brothers (Genesis 37:4-11); the Older Brother in the parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:25-32); Cain (Genesis 4). Jealousy can also hurt the family of God, the church. (Discuss James 3:14-18 and 1 Corinthians 13:4.)
5. Jealousy always causes terrible heartache; it can ruin your life as well as cause you to lose your soul. God said (through Paul) that jealousy is a sin as bad as murder, lying, and other sins that God hates (Romans 13:13b; Galatians 5:20-21). [See also Song of Solomon 8:6.]
6. Even though Saul was very jealous and hateful toward David, David never retaliated or thought he had a “right” to hurt Saul. He never acted toward Saul in a way he knew was not right in God’s sight. We should be happy for the achievements of others, be content with what we have, and pray that God will help us not to have bad thoughts about anyone.

**RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS:** See the following articles on the Apologetics Press Web site for studies on apologetics questions relevant to this lesson:

* “[**Did God Send an Evil Spirit upon Saul?**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/AllegedDiscrepancies.aspx?article=1278)” by Dave Miller
* “[**Did Saul Know David Prior to Goliath’s Death?**](http://www.apologeticspress.org/apcontent.aspx?category=6&amp;article=807)” by Eric Lyons

RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL VISUALS (note disclaimers):

##### Betty Lukens’ felt pieces,

* ABeka Flash-a-Card Series DISCLAIMER: use the cards, not the lesson book;)
* Free Bible Images – Saved on flash drive. Can be presented on classroom tv. Script included in lesson file. File will be labeled “05-06” in the Visuals Folder. Show slides 1-13 for this lesson and save the details about his friendship with Jonathan for next week’s lesson.

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS:

### SUNDAY

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

* Make a play harp. Pre-glue craft sticks in a square. Let students wrap rubber bands around the frame and decorate.



### WEDNESDAY NIGHT

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson. briefly (See [Review Questions](http://www.apcurriculum.com/dcirfol/4-24-32RQ.pdf) for example questions.)

LEARNING CENTERS AND ACTIVITIES:

* Jealousy Object Lesson - Use a gift bag with a large candy bar (be aware of allergies). Make a special presentation to a student in class, then ask the class how they felt when they didn’t receive anything. (Then, make sure everyone gets candy.) This is jealousy. You felt unloved, not as popular, different, meanness, grouchiness and envy. If we put jealousy into action, it could get us into trouble.
* Kings of Israel Review Game – Add new cards then Review All
  + Saul – Tried to kill David with a spear
  + David – Played the harp for Saul

Review Questions

1. When God rejected Saul, Saul became moody, bitter, and angry. What did Saul use to comfort him?
   1. Music played by David, the son of Jesse
2. Name the four things that made Saul jealous of David.

1. David was becoming more popular with the people; 2. Michal, Saul’s Daughter, loved David; 3. Saul knew that the Lord was with David and not him; 4. Jonathan, Saul’s son, was a close friend of David)

1. Define jealousy.
   1. Not being willing to share someone’s love or attention; being hateful toward someone because of something he has or has done
2. How did King Saul’s jealousy make him act towards David?

a. Saul tried to kill him numerous times.

1. Did David retaliate against Saul?

No

Additional Notes / Activities Performed & Curriculum Feed Back

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