

# STUDIES IN THE LIFE OF DAVID

## PART I

### STUDY NUMBER THREE

1 Samuel 19:1-20:42

I think Psalm 59 really fits our study well today.

“Deliver me from my enemies, O my God. Set me securely on high, away from those who rise up against me. Deliver me from those who do iniquity and save me from men of bloodshed. For behold they have set an ambush for my life; fierce men launch an attack against me, not for my transgression nor for my sin, O Lord. For no guilt of mine, they run and set themselves against me. Arouse Yourself to help me, and see!

But as for me, I shall sing of Your strength. Yes, I shall joyfully sing of Your lovingkindness in the morning. For You have been my stronghold and a refuge in the day of my distress. O my strength, I will sing praises to You, For God is my stronghold, the God who shows me lovingkindness.”

Psalm 59:1-4, 16-17

In the previous two studies  
in the life of David,  
in the first one, we saw him at 16  
and Samuel the prophet, anointed him at the time.  
Samuel came to him and told him  
that he was going to be, the next king

and he was being anointed, for that purpose.

Saul is presently the king and has been rejected by the Lord and so the time is coming when David will eventually take the throne.

Since that time two things have happened. First, King Saul needed some ministry of music and they found David who was very skilled on the harp. David has been going back and forth between the shepherd fields and the palace to play for King Saul.

Last week we said that God, always takes his man on the training process and puts him out in the big middle of things and gives him an opportunity to triumph and we saw David with a slingshot and a stone slay Goliath.

In last week's study, the last thing we saw as the curtain dropped, is David has the head of Goliath and he is walking up to talk to Saul and Abner because Saul does not remember who David is and they are having a conversation when the study closed.

Let me capsulize chapter 18 to bring us up to speed before we get into today's study in chapter 19.

In chapter 18 while Saul was talking to David there was another guy listening by the name of Jonathan.

You are going to love this guy.

If you ever wanted to have a friend you would want a person like Jonathan.

Jonathan is the heir to the throne.

He is the oldest son of Saul.

He is the crown prince.

He has grown up in the palace.

He has had all the private lessons, done all the things, he is a rich man's son.

In contrast, David is a shepherd boy, the eighth of eight sons born to Jesse and he has lived out in the country in the rugged outdoors and has had very little as far the amenities of life, is concerned.

So they come from completely opposite extremes but the Scripture tells us in chapter 18 that Jonathan's heart was knit to David.

That means they were bonded together.

They were soul brothers.

They were two peas in a pod.

And the reason, and this is incredible, I will share it with you in just a few minutes.

Jonathan has a phenomenal faith

that is the same as David's.

For instance in chapter 14 of 1 Samuel Jonathan is faced with the Philistine army and the Israelites are not doing anything.  
1 Samuel 14:6-14

<sup>6</sup> Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, "Come, let's go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised fellows. Perhaps the LORD will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the LORD from saving, whether by many or by few." <sup>7</sup> "Do all that you have in mind," his armor-bearer said. "Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul."

<sup>8</sup> Jonathan said, "Come, then; we will cross over toward the men and let them see us. <sup>9</sup> If they say to us, 'Wait there until we come to you,' we will stay where we are and not go up to them. <sup>10</sup> But if they say, 'Come up to us,' we will climb up, because that will be our sign that the LORD has given them into our hands."

<sup>11</sup> So both of them showed themselves to the Philistine outpost. "Look!" said the Philistines. "The Hebrews are crawling out of the holes they were hiding in." <sup>12</sup> The men of the outpost shouted to Jonathan and his armor-bearer, "Come up to us and we'll teach you a lesson."

So Jonathan said to his armor-bearer, "Climb up after me; the LORD has given them into the hand of Israel."

<sup>13</sup> Jonathan climbed up, using his hands and feet, with his armor-bearer right behind him. The Philistines fell before Jonathan, and his armor-bearer followed and killed behind him. <sup>14</sup> In that first attack Jonathan and his armor-bearer

killed some twenty men in an area of about half an acre.

Jonathan and David have this common bond of love and relationship as far as the Lord is concerned.

Jonathan is so impressed with David that as soon as he meets him ... you can see David, he is in his cutoffs and his tennis shoes, and his groady tshirt from being out in the sheepfolds all the time and he says man, if you are going to be around a palace you have to be dressed like somebody from the palace. So he gives him his robe.

He dresses the guy up.  
It is just like an unselfish act of loving service to say to David,  
“I really care about you  
and I really want you to be my friend.”

Have you noticed, how surface friendships are today? I believe the reason we have such shallow surface friendships with people is because we have such a shallow relationship on the vertical.

The deeper a man's relationship with God the greater his potential for commitment and deep binding friendships on the horizontal.

David and Jonathan, opposite extremes, but committed together and you are going to

admire Jonathan.

If there is one thing I could say about him as I introduce him to you today is the word loyalty. He is loyal in the trenches and you can always count on him.

Overnight David has instantaneously become a national figure.

It is like winning a gold medal in the Olympics for your country.

You come home and you are really a hero, you are much in demand.

Saul knows that and he is a tad bit jealous about the whole thing and so he keeps David with him all the time.

He will not let him go back to Bethlehem.

Saul brings David back up to Gibeon. That is about a 15 to 16 mile trip from down the valley of Elah.

And just like today, somebody on one of the radio stations got a song writer and they wrote a song to commemorate the occasion. The main chorus was, "Saul has slain his thousands, David his ten thousands." It was a popular song, and hit the top of the charts. Everybody sang it.

Every town they went through going back to Gibeon, they were all singing this song.

What do you think Saul is thinking?

He is flat ticked.

He is so mad and so jealous.

1 Samuel 18:8 records Saul's response:

“Then Saul became very angry, for this saying displeased him, and he said, ‘They have ascribed to David ten thousand, but to me they have ascribed thousands. Now, what more can he have but the kingdom?’”

David is an instantaneous national hero.

They are selling t-shirts, hats, souvenir mugs with the statement

in the valley of Elah David slew Goliath

August 4, 9:34 a.m. 1032 b.c.

Everybody is getting on the program.

There were t-shirts. “I survived the Philistine conflict.” I was there.

Even toy companies picked up on Goliath monsters and David dolls and they couldn't keep slingshots in stock.

So they are all singing this song

and he becomes this great national hero.

In chapter 18 twice while David is playing the harp to calm Saul down he slings around with his spear and lets it fly to try and kill David he is so mad. Twice David dunks and gets out of there.

Saul has this in his head, "I have to get rid of this guy." **Life** is going to be a whole lot better when David is gone.

And so he says, I know what I will do,  
I will make him a captain of one of my groups  
of thousands.

They go out against the Philistines and they just win.

David comes back and expects to be praised for it  
and every time he comes back Saul gets more ticked.

Remember last week he was going to get three things for  
slaying Goliath: great wealth, get to be  
the king's son-in-law and marry the king's daughter,  
and he is going to get a tax-exemption for his family.

Saul gives his oldest daughter Merab  
to Adriel for marriage.

I think that is a public slap in the face.

David you are so popular you don't need my daughter. **And I**  
do not want you as my son-in-law anyway.

So Saul just x's him out. Kind of a dirty deal.

But behind the scenes, Michal,  
she is the prettiest of the two,  
falls hopelessly in love with David.

Would you wonder?

Rugged outdoorsman, military man,  
has the charisma of a relationship to God,  
David has it all together.



He is the epitome of manhood  
and she just falls in love with him.

Now, what is David going to do?  
Well this poor shepherd boy, if you are going to become the  
king's son-in-law  
you need a dowry for the wedding.

David doesn't have a dowry.  
Saul thinks, "I am sure glad you don't.  
I am going to require that you kill a hundred Philistines."  
Saul is thinking, "That will surely get him killed."

David comes back with two hundred.  
That is just the way David is.

So as the scene of this study opens today  
David is now married to Michal, Saul's daughter  
and last verse in chapter 18  
is a great understatement of scripture.  
"His name is well known" in Israel.

Let's see what happens  
in God's divine curriculum  
for the future king in chapter 19.

The curtain comes up.  
1 Samuel Verse 1 of chapter 19.

v. 1 Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill  
David. But Jonathan was very fond of David.

Saul calls a high-level cabinet meeting and he says, "I want all of you all to be aware of the fact that I have one project and it is top priority. We are going to kill David. And I want you to put up posters in the post office. I want artist sketches in the paper. I want it understood that he is to be on the top of the FBI's most wanted list. And I want everybody to shoot to kill. No questions asked."

But Jonathan is very fond of David. He is not the friend who remains neutral when things are rough. He is the kind of guy who is going to get involved! Just watch Jonathan as he takes action in this situation. And he warns David right away.

v. 2 and 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.

What David is probably beginning to discover is that Jonathan is the one person who has been brought into his life who can be a close friend. God sometimes brings into our lives a person who really cares about us.

This is what Jonathan says to David.

**v. 3** I 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."

So Jonathan goes to his dad  
and they are out there in the field talking together and this is what he says.

**v. 4** Jonathan 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.

Can you imagine?

Here is the guy who is supposed to be the next king. Heir apparent to the throne,  
military champion in his own right,  
everybody likes Jonathan.

He is making intercession for a friend  
who is just a shepherd but a friend  
he has grown to really love and appreciate.

**v. 5** He 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?"

How do you argue against that?

You just don't and neither does Saul.

But watch him.

v. 6 Saul listened to Jonathan and took this oath:

“As surely as the Lord lives, David will not be put to death.”

Saul brings the Lord into this thing now,  
can you imagine that?

“Surely as the Lord lives, he will not be put to death.”

Don't listen to the promises of guys  
who are fallen creatures.

They will make them and they will break them.

Saul is sick.

But watch him in just a little bit.

It is going to surprise you  
to see how irrational Saul is.

Now Jonathan is thinking,  
Everything is going to be fine.

v. 7 So Jonathan called David and told him the whole  
conversation. He brought him to Saul, and David was  
with Saul as before.

Things are kind of settling down.  
The song has dropped off the charts  
and things are getting back to normal.

And you can get the picture in your mind,

David is married to Michal now and he is going home to dinner every night.

It is calm and they are talking about having a family and I think he and Jonathan probably worked out three times a week at the health club and played a little raquetball and worked out on the weights and shot the bow and arrows and practiced their fencing and swords and all that. They kept themselves on keen edge and in good shape and had a good time.

Every once in a while David would have to whip up to the palace and play a little harp up there and things were going great.

But it was kind of the calm between two storms. Have you ever been there? Maybe you are there now. You have been through some storms and it is a little bit calm right now and you think I can't relax because I am waiting for the next one.

Notice what happens. Verse 8.

v. 8 Once more war broke out, and David went out and fought the Philistines. He struck them with such force that they fled before him.

Now what happens?

The song goes to the top of the charts again. Soldiers are whistling the song,

the women are washing at the river and singing it, and men  
at the palace are singing it  
in the hot tubs.

It has really gone back to the top  
and Saul is really ticked again.

v. 9 But an evil spirit from the Lord came upon Saul as he was  
sitting in his house with his spear in his hand. While  
David was playing the harp,

Do you realize how flexible David is?

He is a perfect servant.

He ministers to Saul no matter what his need is.

You need somebody to lead the forces?

I will grab my sword and go out and win for you.

Do you need somebody to calm you down

and play the harp in the palace? I will be glad.

He is flexible.

He just flows into people's lives

and ministers to them wherever they are

and here he is.

v. 10 Saul tried to pin him to the wall with his spear, but  
David eluded him as Saul drove the spear into the wall.  
That night David made good his escape.

This is the 3rd time that Saul has tried to kill David.

v. 11 Saul 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.”

Typical, loving wife under such control.

David if you do not get out of here tonight you will be a statistic in the morning.

Now Michal never has an expression of faith in God.

Here is the tragedy.

David and Michael cannot meet spiritually because she just does not have it together spiritually.

She is like her daddy, King Saul, and he has not tutored his children in spiritual things.

And as a result she never puts God in the situation at all.

David is going to have a hard time for a while.

He is going to be running uphill into the wind.

For the next ten years it is going to get tough and he is going to have to face some situations as to why the road goes this way, Lord?

But Hebrews 12 says, “The Lord chastens those whom he loves and he scourges every son whom he receives.”

v. 12 So Michal let David down through a window, and he fled and escaped.

David is leaving everything he has known and everything he has loved.

**v. 13 Then Michal took an idol and laid it on the bed, covering it with a garment and putting some goats' hair at the head.**

Now she is going to tell a lie.

Is it right to do wrong

so that right is accomplished?

Situation ethics of Joseph Fletcher? Absolutely not.

**v. 14 When Saul sent the men to capture David, Michal said, "He is ill."**

Lie one!

**v. 15 Then Saul sent the men back to see David and told them, "Bring him up to me in his bed so that I may kill him."**

Saul, what did you say back in verse 6 about, "as the Lord lives, he shall certainly not be put to death?"

**v. 16 But when the men entered, there was the idol in the bed, and at the head was some goats' hair.**

**v. 17 Saul said to Michal, "Why did you deceive me like this and send my enemy away so that he escaped?" Michal told him, "He said to me, 'Let me get away. Why should I kill you?'"**

There is lie number two.



v. 18 When David had fled and made his escape, he went to Samuel at Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. Then he and Samuel went to Naioth and stayed there.

You tell me where a man goes when he is in trouble and I will tell you the kind of man he is.

He goes back to Samuel.

Has not seen him since he was 16.

Samuel is a very spiritual godly man as we have already learned.

Samuel may have been the father image for David that he never had in Jesse.

David you don't have a thing to worry about.

I anointed you.

I spoke God's message to you.

You are going to be the next king.

So no matter what happens David, do not worry, everything is going to work out just fine.

For two or three weeks nobody knows where he is but then the CIA gets to work and they come in with this big message.

v. 19 Word came to Saul: "David is in Naioth at Ramah";

v. 20 so he sent men to capture him. But when they saw a group of prophets prophesying, with Samuel standing

there as their leader, the Spirit of God came upon Saul's men and they also prophesied.

Usually they sent 50 guys on these little missions to apprehend one guy.

And as soon as they get there they hit the wall of the Spirit of God.

It was a stone last week, it is the Spirit of God this week that is delivering him.

v. 21 Saul was told about it, and he sent more men, and they prophesied too. Saul sent men a third time, and they also prophesied.

Now we have 150 guys up there prophesying. Totally incapacitated with regard to fulfilling their mission.

After three times Saul gets ticked even more.

v. 22 Finally, he himself left for Ramah and went to the great cistern at Secu. And he asked, "Where are Samuel and David?" "Over in Naioth at Ramah," they said.

v. 23 So Saul went to Naioth at Ramah. But the Spirit of God came even upon him, and he walked along prophesying until he came to Naioth.

v. 24 He stripped off his robes and also prophesied in Samuel's presence. He lay that way all that day and night. This is why people say,

“Is Saul also among the prophets?”

Saul hit the wall.

All David can see is Saul.

All David can think about are the three spears that have hit the wall.

All David can think about is on his circumstances.

Now let me you ask a question.

What mistake is David getting ready to make?

David is getting ready to replace his faith with his fear.

He should have had the signal by now that God used the stone in chapter 17 and the Spirit of God in chapter 19 and He will use whatever is necessary to protect him because David is going to be king. God is going to fulfill His promise.

1 Samuel 20:1

20:v. 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 take my life?”

Why did David flee from Naioth?

I am sure it is probably out of fear that he takes matters

into his own hands and leaves.

You never flee into the will of God!

David runs out of the will of God  
simply because he has his eyes on his circumstances.

Notice how many times the word “I”  
and “my” occur in this first verse.

But where is the God of the slingshot?  
Where is the faith?  
Where is all of this? It is gone.

Look at his buddy Jonathan. Right away. Verse 2

v. 2 “Never!” Jonathan replied. “You are not going to die!  
Look, my father doesn’t do anything, great or small,  
without confiding in me. Why would he hide this from  
me? It’s not so!”

The verse begins with “never” and ends with  
“It’s not so”

v. 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.”

Now is that the melancholy coming out  
or is that the melancholy coming out?

The melancholy always comes out  
in tremendous pessimism, remember?

If you want your melancholy to come out  
just get your eyes off the Lord  
and onto your circumstances and you will be  
such a tremendous blessing to everybody around you!

This is a really neat statement in verse 4.

v. 4 Jonathan said to David, “Whatever you want me to do, I’ll  
do for you.”

Jonathan, even though he feels  
David’s fears are ungrounded, makes a commitment to David  
here in verse 4, “Whatever you want me to do,  
I’ll do for you.”  
I’m ready to help!  
I’ll hang in there with you!  
I’m totally available! What a friend!

v. 5 So David said, “Look, tomorrow is the New Moon festival,  
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.

v. 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.'

v. 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.

v. 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?"

You can still see the melancholy coming out and the negative thinking.

If I am guilty then go ahead and run me through right now so your dad will not have to do it. Just kill me.

v. 9 "Never!" Jonathan said. "If I had the least inkling that my father was determined to harm you, wouldn't I tell you?"

Once again, Jonathan is quite outspoken when he responds with the word "Never!"

v. 10 David asked, "Who will tell me if your father answers you harshly?"

v. 11 "Come," Jonathan said, "let's go out into the field." So they went there together.

**v. 12** Then Jonathan said to David: “By the Lord, the God of Israel, I will surely sound out my father by this time the day after tomorrow! If he is favorably disposed toward you, will I not send you word and let you know?”

**v. 13** But if my father is inclined to harm you, may the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if I do not let you know and send you away safely. May the Lord be with you as he has been with my father.

The wish of Jonathan for David is that the Lord will be with him as he has been with his father.

Look at those next two verses.  
You talk about incredible faith.

**v. 14** But show me unfailing kindness like that of the Lord as long as I live, so that I may not be killed,

Jonathan now is speaking in faith, knowing that David truly is the king-designate.

He is requesting that when David takes the throne, that Jonathan, as a member of the family of Saul, will not be killed.

**v. 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.”

**v. 16** So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, “May the Lord call David’s enemies to account.”

You do not have a house unless you are a king.

v. 17 And Jonathan had David reaffirm his oath out of love for him, because he loved him as he loved himself.

v. 18 Then Jonathan said to David: “Tomorrow is the New Moon festival. You will be missed, because your seat will be empty.

v. 19 The day after tomorrow, toward evening, go to the place where you hid when this trouble began, and wait by the stone Ezel.

v. 20 I will shoot three arrows to the side of it, as though I were shooting at a target.

v. 21 Then I will send a boy and say, ‘Go, find the arrows.’ If I say to him, ‘Look, the arrows are on this side of you; bring them here,’ then come, because, as surely as the Lord lives, you are safe; there is no danger.

v. 22 But if I say to the boy, ‘Look, the arrows are beyond you,’ then you must go, because the Lord has sent you away.

v. 23 And about the matter you and I discussed—remember, the Lord is witness between you and me forever.”

v. 24 So David hid in the field, and when the New Moon festival came, the king sat down to eat.



**v. 25** He sat in his customary place by the wall, opposite Jonathan, and Abner sat next to Saul, but David's place was empty.

**v. 26** Saul said nothing that day, for he thought, "Something must have happened to David to make him ceremonially unclean—surely he is unclean."

**v. 27** But the next day, the second day of the month, David's place was empty again. Then Saul said to his son Jonathan, "Why hasn't the son of Jesse come to the meal, either yesterday or today?"

Notice he does not call him David.

**v. 28** Jonathan answered, "David earnestly asked me for permission to go to Bethlehem.

**v. 29** He said, 'Let me go, because our family is observing a sacrifice in the town and my brother has ordered me to be there. If I have found favor in your eyes, let me get away to see my brothers.' That is why he has not come to the king's table."

**v. 30** Saul's anger flared up at Jonathan and he said to him, "You son of a perverse and rebellious woman! Don't I know that you have sided with the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of the mother who bore you?"

Why does he call him a “son of a perverse and rebellious woman”?

There is your key.

Jonathan's faith is because of a woman of faith.

v. 31 As long as the son of Jesse lives on this earth, neither you nor your kingdom will be established. Now send and bring him to me, for he must die!”

Jonathan stands up to him.

I admire him. He asks two questions.

v. 32 “Why should he be put to death? What has he done?” Jonathan asked his father.

v. 33 But Saul hurled his spear at him to kill him. Then Jonathan knew that his father intended to kill David.

v. 34 Jonathan got up from the table in fierce anger; on that second day of the month he did not eat, because he was grieved at his father's shameful treatment of David.

Jonathan had anger so great his appetite was gone and he grieved over his father.

v. 35 In the morning Jonathan went out to the field for his meeting with David. He had a small boy with him,

v. 36 and he said to the boy, “Run and find the arrows I shoot.” As the boy ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.

Can you see David watching the flight of the arrow because the flight of the arrow is the determination of the will of God for his future?

v. 37 When the boy came to the place where Jonathan's arrow had fallen, Jonathan called out after him, "Isn't the arrow beyond you?"

What do you think that does?  
Going to leave your wife,  
your best friend,  
all your popularity in the palace,  
your home,  
loose your job,  
and you don't know  
where you are going.

When you come to a crossroad like that  
and everything is stripped down, what do you do?

The Lord is saying by the arrow going beyond,  
I am sending you away.

But the Lord is saying come take my hand.

I will show you the way and we will go together.

You've got to trust me!

v. 38 Then he shouted, "Hurry! Go quickly! Don't stop!" The boy picked up the arrow and returned to his master.

v. 39 (The boy knew nothing of all this; only Jonathan and David knew.)

v. 40 Then Jonathan gave his weapons to the boy and said, "Go, carry them back to town."

v. 41 After the boy had gone, David got up from the south side [of the stone] and bowed down before Jonathan three times, with his face to the ground. Then they kissed each other and wept together—but David wept the most.

David is really hurting. He's losing both Michal and Jonathan all in one fell swoop.

v. 42 Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, for we have sworn friendship with each other in the name of the Lord, saying, 'The Lord is witness between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants forever.'" Then David left, and Jonathan went back to the town.

David is going to be tested and trained in God's school for the next ten years.

This is a turning point in his life.

These are going to be rough years that we are going to study together.

However out of it comes some of the richest Psalms that were ever written.

## CONCLUSION:

Here are some Psalms to meditate on.  
I think these Psalms are speaking David's mind.

### Psalms 25:16

“Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.”

### Psalms 56:3

“When I am afraid, I will put my trust in You.”

### Psalms 69:20

“Reproach has broken my heart, and I am so sick; and I looked for sympathy, but there was none, and for comforters, but I found none.”

### Psalms 73:25-26

“Whom have I in heaven but You? And besides You, I desire nothing on earth. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

Let's review the lessons from this study.

LESSON #1: The Lord is the one who wins the victories 2 Corinthians 2:14.

LESSON #2: Jonathan is a friend who got involved in his friend's needs.

Maybe the greatest thing you can do is something special for your friend.

LESSON #3: "My little children, keep yourself from idols" (1 John 5:21).

LESSON #4: It is never right to do wrong in any given situation.

LESSON #5: Where a man goes when he is in trouble tells you the kind of man he is.

David goes to Samuel.

LESSON #6: God has been faithful to deliver David in every situation.

He should have learned that.

It was the stone and the sling last week,  
the Spirit of God this week,  
and the failure of the spears  
to hit him all three times.

The Lord has delivered David every time.

**LESSON #7: Fear is the result of getting our eyes off the Lord and on our circumstances.**

All he could see was Saul  
when he came to Naioth.  
David get your eyes back on the Lord.

**LESSON #8: Jealousy plus hate plus anger = murder.**

**LESSON #9: It is never the right time to take matters into your own hands.**

# What You Need to Know About DAVID

## PART I

### STUDY NUMBER THREE - 1 Samuel 19:1-24 1 Samuel 20:1-42

19:v. 1 Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David. But Jonathan was very fond of David

v. 2 and 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.

v. 3 I 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."

v. 4 Jonathan 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.

v. 5 He 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?"

v. 6 Saul listened to Jonathan and took this oath: "As surely as the Lord lives, David will not be put to death."

v. 7 So Jonathan called David and told him the whole conversation. He brought him to Saul, and David was with Saul as before.

v. 8 Once more war broke out, and David went out and fought the Philistines. He struck them with such force that they fled before him.

v. 9 But an evil spirit from the Lord came upon Saul as he was sitting in his house with his spear in his hand. While David was playing the harp,

v.10 Saul tried to pin him to the wall with his spear, but David eluded him as Saul drove the spear into the wall. That night David made good his escape.

v.11 Saul 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."

v.12 So Michal let David down through a window, and he fled and escaped.

v.13 Then Michal took an idol and laid it on the bed, covering it with a garment and putting some goats' hair at the head.

v.14 When Saul sent the men to capture David, Michal said, "He is ill."

v.15 Then Saul sent the men back to see David and told them, "Bring him up to



me on his bed so that I may kill him."

v.16 But when the men entered, there was the idol in the bed, and at the head was some goats' hair.

v.17 Saul said to Michal, "Why did you deceive me like this and send my enemy away so that he escaped?" Michal told him, "He said to me, 'Let me get away. Why should I kill you?'"

v.18 When David had fled and made his escape, he went to Samuel at Ramah and told him all that Saul had done to him. Then he and Samuel went to Naioth and stayed there.

v.19 Word came to Saul: "David is in Naioth at Ramah";

v.20 so he sent men to capture him. But when they saw a group of prophets prophesying, with Samuel standing there as their leader, the Spirit of God came upon Saul's men and they also prophesied.

v.21 Saul was told about it, and he sent more men, and they prophesied too. Saul sent men a third time, and they also prophesied.

v.22 Finally, he himself left for Ramah and went to the great cistern at Secu. And he asked, "Where are Samuel and David?" "Over in Naioth at Ramah," they said.

v.23 So Saul went to Naioth at Ramah. But the Spirit of God came even upon him, and he walked along prophesying until he came to Naioth.

v.24 He stripped off his robes and also prophesied in Samuel's presence. He lay that way all that day and night. This is why people say, "Is Saul also among the prophets?"

20:v. 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 take my life?"

v. 2 "Never!" Jonathan replied. "You are not going to die! Look, my father doesn't do anything, great or small, without confiding in me. Why would he hide this from me? It's not so!"

v. 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."

v. 4 Jonathan said to David, "Whatever you want me to do, I'll do for you."

v. 5 So David said, "Look, tomorrow is the New Moon festival, 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.

v. 6 If your father misses me at all, tell him, 'David earnestly asked my permission to hurry to Bethlehem, his home town, because an annual sacrifice is being made there for his whole clan.'

v. 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.

v. 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?"

v. 9 "Never!" Jonathan said. "If I had the least inkling that my father was determined to harm you, wouldn't I tell you?"

v.10 David asked, "Who will tell me if your father answers you harshly?"

v.11 "Come," Jonathan said, "let's go out into the field." So they went there together.

v.12 Then Jonathan said to David: "By the Lord, the God of Israel, I will surely sound out my father by this time the day after tomorrow! If he is favorably disposed toward you, will I not send you word and let you know?

v.13 But if my father is inclined to harm you, may the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if I do not let you know and send you away safely. May the

Lord be with you as he has been with my father.

v.14 But show me unfailing kindness like that of the Lord as long as I live, so that I may not be killed,

v.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."

v.16 So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, "May the Lord call David's enemies to account."

v.17 And Jonathan had David reaffirm his oath out of love for him, because he loved him as he loved himself.

v.18 Then Jonathan said to David: "Tomorrow is the New Moon festival. You will be missed, because your seat will be empty.

v.19 The day after tomorrow, toward evening, go to the place where you hid when this trouble began, and wait by the stone Ezel.

v.20 I will shoot three arrows to the side of it, as though I were shooting at a target.

v.21 Then I will send a boy and say, 'Go, find the arrows.' If I say to him, 'Look, the arrows are on this side of you; bring them here,' then come, because, as surely as the Lord lives, you are safe; there is no danger.

v.22 But if I say to the boy, 'Look, the arrows are beyond you,' then you must go, because the Lord has sent you away.

v.23 And about the matter you and I discussed--remember, the Lord is witness between you and me forever."

v.24 So David hid in the field, and when the New Moon festival came, the king sat down to eat.

v.25 He sat in his customary place by the wall. Jonathan sat opposite him, and Abner sat next to Saul, but David's place was empty.

v.26 Saul said nothing that day, for he thought, "Something must have happened to David to make him ceremonially unclean--surely he is unclean."

v.27 But the next day, the second day of the month, David's place was empty again. Then Saul said to his son Jonathan, "Why hasn't the son of Jesse come to the meal, either yesterday or today?"

v.28 Jonathan answered, "David earnestly asked me for permission to go to Bethlehem.

v.29 He said, 'Let me go, because our family is observing a sacrifice in the town and my brother has ordered me to be there. If I have found favor in your eyes, let me get away to see my brothers.' That is why he has not come to the king's table."

v.30 Saul's anger flared up at Jonathan and he said to him, "You son of a perverse and rebellious woman! Don't I know that you have sided with the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of the mother who bore you?

v.31 As long as the son of Jesse lives on this earth, neither you nor your kingdom will be established. Now send and bring him to me, for he must die!"

v.32 "Why should he be put to death? What has he done?" Jonathan asked his father.

v.33 But Saul hurled his spear at him to kill him. Then Jonathan knew that his father intended to kill David.

v.34 Jonathan got up from the table in fierce anger; on that second day of the month he did not eat, because he was grieved at his father's shameful treatment of David.

v.35 In the morning Jonathan went out to the field for his meeting with David. He had a small boy with him,

v.36 and he said to the boy, "Run and find the arrows I shoot." As the boy ran, he shot an arrow beyond him.

v.37 When the boy came to the place where Jonathan's arrow had fallen, Jonathan called out after him, "Isn't the arrow beyond you?"

v.38 Then he shouted, "Hurry! Go quickly! Don't stop!" The boy picked up the

arrow and returned to his master.

**v.39** (The boy knew nothing of all this; only Jonathan and David knew.)

**v.40** Then Jonathan gave his weapons to the boy and said, "Go, carry them back to town."

**v.41** After the boy had gone, David got up from the south side of the stone and bowed down before Jonathan three times, with his face to the ground. Then they kissed each other and wept together--but David wept the most.

**v.42** Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, for we have sworn friendship with each other in the name of the Lord, saying, 'The Lord is witness between you and me, and between your descendants and my descendants forever'" Then David left, and Jonathan went back to the town.

## **QUESTIONS:**

1. Read 1 Samuel 19:1-20:42 several times and in your own words outline what is happening in the life of David.
2. What does Saul command his son Jonathan to do in verse 1?
3. How does Jonathan defend David, according to verses 4 & 5?
4. What did Saul try to do to David, according to verse 10?
5. How did David escape from Saul, according to verses 11-17?
6. Where and to whom did David flee when he left Michal, according to verse 18?
7. What is Jonathan's plan to let David know of conditions in the palace, according to chapter 20:18-23?
8. What does Saul try to do to Jonathan, according to 20:30-33?
9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?
10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

## Lessons Learned In The Life Of David:

STUDY NUMBER THREE - 1 Samuel 19:1-24  
1 Samuel 20:1-42

**LESSON #1: The Lord is the One who wins the victories (2 Corinthians 2:14).**

**LESSON #2:** Jonathan is a friend who got involved in his friend's needs.

**LESSON #3:** "My little children, keep yourself from idols" (John 5:21).

**LESSON #4:** It is never right to do wrong in any given situation.

**LESSON #5:** Where a man goes when he is in trouble tells you the kind of man he is.

**LESSON #6:** God has been faithful to deliver David in every situation.

**LESSON #7:** Fear is the result of getting our eyes off the Lord and on our circumstances.

**LESSON #8:** Jealousy + hate + anger = murder.

**LESSON #9:** It is never the right time to take matters into your own hands.