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|  |  | Pastor Chris BrownFebruary 5-6, 2022Message #5 / 1 Samuel 18 |
|  | northcoastchurch.com/sermons |

**Why Pride And Jealousy Plague Our Kingdom**

**A David story never told in children’s church… EVER!**

1 Samuel 18

We will always struggle with **PRIDE** and **JEALOUSY**

 if we forget whose **KINGDOM** it really is.

True **HUMILITY** comes from accepting whose **KINGDOM**

it is and the **ROLE** we get to **PLAY** in it.

**What can, or can’t, we apply to our lives?**

1 Samuel 18, Philippians 4:10-13, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, John 14-17, Matthew 3:16-4:3

**The Holy Spirit is necessary:**

 not just for **BLESSINGS**, but so we can handle **CURSING**.

 not just for **SUCCESS**, but to go through **FAILURE**.

 not just to bless **OUR LIVES**, but so we can handle **DEATH**.

**The Spirit works:**

more in the **INTANGIBLE** than the **TANGIBLE**.

more in **US** than outside of **US**.

more to **CHANGE US** than to change our **LIVES**.

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**Life Group Study Questions**

**For the week of February 6, 2022**

 **Quick review**

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

 **my story**

1. Have you ever been given something valuable to borrow or take care of? How did you treat it knowing that it didn’t belong to you?

What similarities can you see to treating your life as God’s and not yours?

2. Can you think of a time when you were going through a difficult time or facing a challenge and, instead of changing your circumstances, God used His Spirit to strengthen you and/or change your attitude towards your circumstances?

 **Digging deeper**

1. This weekend we saw that the more we see this life as ours, the more we are going to defend it with jealousy and pride. We also saw that David clearly viewed it as God’s kingdom and he was humbled just to play a role in it. In Matthew 25:14-30, Jesus tells a parable about three servants who demonstrate how you act when you believe everything belongs to God. How would you contrast how the first two servants understood what their role was to that of the third servant?

***Matthew 25:14-30*** ***New International Version (NIV)***

***14****“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them.****15****To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.****16****The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more.****17****So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more.****18****But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.*

***19****“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.****20****The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’*

***21****“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’*

***22****“The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’*

***23****“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’*

***24****“Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed.****25****So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’*

***26****“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed?****27****Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.*

***28****“‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags.****29****For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them.****30****And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’*

What can we speculate about how each of the servants viewed the master given how they handled what he had entrusted to them?

The fact that this is God’s kingdom and not ours is *both* bad news for our natural, sinful desires *and* good news for our lives in Christ. What are some of the challenges or “bad news” we face because our lives are not our own? What are some of the benefits or “good news”?

When are you most tempted to treat your life as yours and not God’s?

When are you most reminded to treat your life as God’s and not yours?

Remembering whose kingdom it is has a lot to do with acknowledging that it is not about you. When are some situations you struggle with remembering it’s not about you?

Can you think of any examples of what it might look like to treat the significant areas of your life (job, marriage, singleness, children, relationships, home, finances, time, etc.) as God’s and not yours?

2. To be clear on the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives, let’s turn to the teachings of Jesus at the Last Supper. Jesus spent the very last night of His freedom in the upper room preparing the disciples for the Holy Spirit and what it was going to be like to live with Him. As you read the following passages from that scene in the upper room, what do you notice about the role of the Holy Spirit and what He does for us?

***John 14:15-26******New International Version (NIV)
15****“If you love me, keep my commands.****16****And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—****17****the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.****18****I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.****19****Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live.****20****On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.****21****Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”****22****Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?”****23****Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.****24****Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.****25****“All this I have spoken while still with you.****26****But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*

***John 16:7-15******New International Version (NIV)***

***7****But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.****8****When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment:****9****about sin, because people do not believe in me;****10****about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer;****11****and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.*

***12****“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear.****13****But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.****14****He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you.****15****All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”*

What words or phrases in these verses speak to the idea that the Holy Spirit helps us handle “cursing” and “failure” and the trials of life, as Chris mentioned?

How might remembering the Holy Spirit is not just there for blessings but also to help us handle challenges affect how you pray?

 **taking it home**

Which point from this weekend’s message or Life Group study is most important for you to remember?

 **prayer requests**

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