

# Love Your Enemy Through a Good Name

## What We're Learning in This Series:

1. Your character is seen in how you treat your enemies.
2. Those who you perceive to be enemies may be the people who help shape you more than anyone.
3. All Christ-followers should be known for loving their enemies.

## Enemies

*"When a man finds his enemy, does he let him get away unharmed? May the LORD reward you well for the way you treated me today."* - 1 Samuel 24:19

*"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you."* - Luke 6:27

## David Has Been Hiding (1 Samuel 27-31)

*"But David thought to himself, 'One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul. The best thing I can do is to escape to the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will give up searching for me anywhere in Israel, and I will slip out of his hand.'" - 1 Samuel 27:1*

- For several years, since Saul's last attempt on his life, David has been living in Philistia.
- The Philistines were enemies of Saul, so David knew he was "safe" hiding there.
- Meanwhile, Israel's army was defeated by the Philistines and Saul and his sons were killed.

- The death of Saul changed everything in Israel!

*"When the Israelites along the valley and those across the Jordan saw that the Israelite army had fled and that Saul and his sons had died, they abandoned their towns and fled. And the Philistines came and occupied them."* - 1 Samuel 31:7

## David Learns of Saul's Death (2 Samuel 1:1-10)

- As David returns from his own battle, he learns of Saul's death from an Amalekite. *(There shouldn't BE any Amalekites!)*  
*"Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy everything that belongs to them. Do not spare them..."* - 1 Samuel 15:3
- The Amalekite is a liar in many ways but David doesn't know that. *(He certainly was the first to find Saul's body, take the crown and armband, and he wanted a "reward" from David.)*

## David Mourns Saul's Death (vs. 11-16)

- David and his men mourn deeply for Saul, Jonathan, Israel's army, and the house of Israel.
- David was able to "see through" the ruse of the Amalekite and put him to death based on his own testimony.

*"David had said to him, 'Your blood be on your own head. Your own mouth testified against you when you said, 'I killed the LORD's Anointed.'" - 2 Samuel 1:16*

## David Responds to Saul's Death (vs. 17-27)

- David writes a song (poem) in honour of Saul and Jonathan.

*What might David have done?*

- He could have written a song of rejoicing.
- He could have "preached" on the evils of his enemy.
- He could have defamed his enemy and set himself up as the alternative to the "evil Saul."
- He could have rushed in to replace Saul as king.

*"In the course of time, David inquired of the LORD. "Shall I go up to one of the towns of Judah?" he asked.* - 2 Samuel 2:1

- David ordered that all men of Judah memorize this poem!  
*"David took up this lament concerning Saul and his son Jonathan, and ordered that the men of Judah be taught this lament of the bow (it is written in the Book of Jashar):  
"Your glory, O Israel, lies slain on your heights. How the mighty have fallen!" 27 "How the mighty have fallen! The weapons of war have perished!" - 2 Samuel 1:17-19,27*
- Because of David, Saul is remembered today as a great man!  
*"...circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee..." - Philippians 3:5*

## Lessons We Learn:

1. How do you react to the troubles of your enemies?
2. Are you doing everything in your power to make sure that your enemies are known and remembered properly?
  - Are you avoiding gossip at all costs, and not tearing down another person's name?

# Love Your Enemy Through a Good Name

## What We're Learning in This Series:

1. Your character is seen in how you treat your \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Those who you perceive to be enemies may be the people who help shape you more than anyone.
3. All Christ-followers should be \_\_\_\_\_ for loving their enemies.

## Enemies

*"When a man finds his enemy, does he let him get away unharmed? May the LORD reward you well for the way you treated me today."* - 1 Samuel 24:19

*"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you."* - Luke 6:27

## David Has Been Hiding (1 Samuel 27-31)

*"But David thought to himself, 'One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul. The best thing I can do is to escape to the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will give up searching for me anywhere in Israel, and I will slip out of his hand?'"* - 1 Samuel 27:1

- For several \_\_\_\_\_, since Saul's last attempt on his life, David has been living in Philistia.
- The Philistines were enemies of Saul, so David knew he was "\_\_\_\_\_" hiding there.
- Meanwhile, Israel's army was \_\_\_\_\_ by the Philistines and Saul and his sons were killed.
- The death of Saul changed \_\_\_\_\_ in Israel!  
*"When the Israelites along the valley and those across the Jordan saw that the Israelite army had fled and that Saul and his sons had died, they abandoned their towns and fled. And the Philistines came and occupied them."* - 1 Samuel 31:7

## David Learns of Saul's Death (2 Samuel 1:1-10)

- As David returns from his \_\_\_\_\_ battle, he learns of Saul's death from an Amalekite. *(There shouldn't BE any Amalekites!)*  
*"Now go, attack the Amalekites and totally destroy everything that belongs to them. Do not spare them..."* - 1 Samuel 15:3
- The Amalekite is a \_\_\_\_\_ in many ways but David doesn't know that. *(He certainly was the first to find Saul's body, take the crown and armband, and he wanted a "reward" from David.)*

## David Mourns Saul's Death (vs. 11-16)

- David and his men \_\_\_\_\_ deeply for Saul, Jonathan, Israel's army, and the house of Israel.
- David was able to "see through" the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Amalekite and put him to death based on his own testimony.  
*"David had said to him, 'Your blood be on your own head. Your own mouth testified against you when you said, 'I killed the LORD's Anointed.'"* - 2 Samuel 1:16

## David Responds to Saul's Death (vs. 17-27)

- David writes a \_\_\_\_\_ (poem) in honour of Saul and Jonathan.

*What might David have done?*

- He could have written a song of \_\_\_\_\_.
- He could have "preached" of the \_\_\_\_\_ of his enemy.
- He could have \_\_\_\_\_ his enemy and set himself up as the alternative to the "evil Saul."
- He could have rushed in to \_\_\_\_\_ Saul as king.  
*"In the course of time, David inquired of the LORD. "Shall I go up to one of the towns of Judah?" he asked.* - 2 Samuel 2:1
- David ordered that all men of Judah \_\_\_\_\_ this poem!  
*"David took up this lament concerning Saul and his son Jonathan, and ordered that the men of Judah be taught this lament of the bow (it is written in the Book of Jashar): "Your glory, O Israel, lies slain on your heights. How the mighty have fallen! <sup>27</sup>"How the might have fallen! The weapons of war have perished!"* - 2 Samuel 1:17-19,27
- Because of David, Saul is remembered today as a \_\_\_\_\_ man!  
*"...circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee..."* - Philippians 3:5

## Lessons We Learn:

1. How do you react to the \_\_\_\_\_ of your enemies?
2. Are you doing everything in your power to make sure that your enemies are known and remembered \_\_\_\_\_?  
  - Are you avoiding \_\_\_\_\_ at all costs, and not tearing down another person's name?