
A Year in the Word

A Year in the Word: Part 24

Small Group Questions: Anger Must Fall (Miniseries Part 2)

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Read

1 Samuel 16:6–7 and 17:28–29 and 24:2–7; Ephesians 4:26–27; Proverbs 25:28 and 28:13; Romans 12:19; and Luke 6:27–28

Reflect

In 1 Samuel 16, Samuel is sent by God to anoint the next king. At sight of Eliab, the oldest of Jesse's sons, Samuel thinks he must be the one. But God rejects Eliab, and instead chooses David. Later in 1 Samuel 17, Eliab angrily rebukes David for showing up at the Israelite war camp and talking to the men about the Philistine, Goliath. What reasons does Eliab use for his anger with David? Do you believe them?

Pastor Josh Surratt highlights ways we can slay the giant of anger:

1. Discover the source.
 - a. What is the real reason Eliab is angry with David?
 - b. When have you directed anger at someone for reasons other than the main/real one? What was/is keeping you from addressing the real reason?
 - c. In the Bible, God gets angry many times. What's the difference between our anger and his?
 - d. Are you or someone you care about dealing with anger? What might you be holding onto that you shouldn't? What is becoming a stronghold?
 - e. What might be at the root of that anger? Disappointment? Rejection? Jealousy? Failed relationship? Insecurity? Other? Explain.
2. Develop a battle plan.
 - a. When have you said or done something in anger that you regretted?
 - b. How have you seen anger open up avenues to the enemy?
 - c. Even if someone has a legitimate reason for anger, what are signs that it might be twisting into sin?
 - d. What is your plan to handle issues of anger when they arise?
3. Surrender my weapons to God.
 - a. In 1 Samuel 24, David has the opportunity to kill King Saul. His men tell him that surely God has placed Saul into his hands. Instead David cuts off material from the hem of Saul's robe. Why does David's conscience bother him for even doing that much to Saul?
 - i. If David had gone ahead and killed Saul then, what might have happened in Israel?
 - b. When have you not left justice and timing to God? What were the results?
 - i. When have you left justice to God? How did the results differ?
 - c. Romans 12:19 says to never take revenge. Why is that?
 - d. To get even with someone: is it a right, or a desire? How hard is it to give it up to God to handle?
 - e. Are you defining enemies/those who have hurt you, by their worst moments? What if others do the same to you? How hard is it to pray for those who have hurt you?

Respond: Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?