

LESSON 3



SAUL IS JEALOUS OF DAVID

OBJECTIVES

1. To know that God has given each of us a special role.
2. To learn about how Saul changed after David came to his palace.
3. To identify the talents we have received from God and use them wisely to serve God.

MEMORY VERSE

“A sound heart is life to the body, but envy is rotteness to the bones.”

(Proverbs 14:30)

PRAYER

1. Thank You, God, for this blessed Sabbath day of worship and for allowing us to gather here once again to learn about Your wisdom and knowledge.
2. Today, we will study about how Saul's perception of David changed over time.
3. Lord, please guide us to seek and pursue after the role You have given each of us so that we may become the blessings for others you want us to be.
4. May God help us to understand the harm jealousy can bring to us and help us to overcome any thoughts of envy and resentment we may have towards others.



Overview

1. **Saul Becomes Jealous of David** (1 Sam 18:5-9)
2. **Saul Attempts to Kill David** (1 Sam 18:10-11)
3. **The Lord Is with David** (1 Sam 18:12-16)
4. **David Marries Michal** (1 Sam 18:17-30)
5. **Jonathan Is on David's Side** (1 Sam 19:1-7)
6. **Saul Persecutes David** (1 Sam 19:8-18)
7. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—The Church
8. **Life Application**—Overcoming Jealousy; Understanding Jealousy
9. **Activity**—Find Your Gifts!



Background Knowledge for Teachers

Saul felt threatened by David because he worried that one day David would take over his kingdom. His jealousy began when people compared him with David, which made him feel insecure about his reputation as king of Israel. “What more can David have but the kingdom?” Saul thought to himself. While it is true that David was going to take over the kingdom of Israel, Saul's heart was not right. Saul knew very well that the Lord was with David and had departed from him, but he did nothing to change that and focused all his efforts on destroying David. He completely disregarded the fact that God was on David's side and that by trying to kill David, he was disobeying God. Saul could not retain his kingdom later on because of his own errors, not because of David. Saul lost his acknowledgement and need of God. God had anointed David long before David gained his reputation, and David did everything right to get to where God wanted him to be—he relied on God in everything he did, fought battle after battle for Israel, and served the king obediently. Saul never turned to God when overcoming jealousy, and he was the only person to blame for losing his kingdom later on.



Reaching Out to Your Students

It is very natural for students at this age to compare themselves with others. It makes them feel secure and accepted to have what others have, from material possessions to abilities. It's easier for them to focus on what they don't have than to appreciate what they already have. However, it is important for the students to understand how harmful jealousy is to their minds. Jealousy is a powerful emotion that takes away happiness, peace, and self-worth. It takes control of our minds and makes us feel bitter, insecure, and useless. Make the students aware of the negative effects of jealousy so that they will choose to avoid becoming jealous themselves. Remind the students that jealousy doesn't come from God; it comes from evil, but God has the power to help us overcome jealousy.



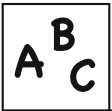
Opener

5 Minutes

What is jealousy? How does it feel to be jealous? Have you ever been jealous of someone before?

Today, we're going to learn about how Saul, king of Israel, became exceedingly jealous of David. Do you remember what made David heroic in the beginning? [Let students answer.] He was the only person brave enough to fight Goliath, and he brought victory to Israel! Before we learn about what happened after David killed Goliath, let's do a little drawing exercise to get ourselves ready for the lesson. [Give each student a piece of paper and colored pencils.] On your piece of paper, please draw what comes to mind when you hear the word "jealousy." What do you think "jealousy" looks like?

[The purpose of this exercise is to make students aware that jealousy is not a positive feeling and that it can be harmful to us in many ways. Some students may draw an angry face, a fire, or a scribble to represent an unpleasant feeling of hostility and resentment. Ask students to share their drawings with the class and explain to them that jealousy shouldn't be something they want in their lives. Conclude with today's memory verse.]



Vocabulary

distressing spirit: an evil spirit that rules people's hearts; this spirit led Saul to think negatively and become jealous of David



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out Bible Discovery Worksheets #1 and #2 to the students. There are instructions within this lesson to guide students to fill out the worksheet.

Last week, we learned about David, who had the courage to kill Goliath. When everyone else was so afraid and expecting to lose the battle with the Philistines, David stood up to Goliath and killed him, not only honoring the people of Israel but also God, who empowered David with immense courage. After this event, Saul invited David to live with him in the palace. Whenever the evil spirit was upon Saul, David would play the harp for him and Saul would become refreshed and well (1 Sam 16:23).

It happened when David was returning from the slaughter of Goliath, many women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul with joy of victory. They were singing with musical instruments, including tambourines, and dancing as they sang: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands!" They were not just saying that David had killed many enemies. What did they imply with their words? [Let students answer.] They were also saying that David was BETTER than Saul because he killed ten times more enemies! These women probably didn't mean to disrespect Saul; they just wanted to praise David for his exceptional talent. After all, everyone could see that David had a special gift from God.

Now, how do you think Saul felt at that time after hearing what the women were saying? [Let students answer.] Let's imagine that Saul had a journal. On Bible Discovery Worksheet #1, complete **Journal A**, Saul's journal entry on the day that David returned from the slaughter of Goliath.

FOR TEACHERS

Read the journal together with your students and let them brainstorm answers for the blanks. Reference answers are underlined below.

Journal A

Today, David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine. Originally, I was really, really happy knowing that we no longer have to worry about the words from Goliath... But here comes another threat! The women say, "Saul has killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands." I am so (angry, jealous, upset). David killed a giant, but what about all the Philistines I've killed before? How come David deserves more praise than I do? I (don't like, hate, envy, despise) David. I am so worried... One day he is going to take over my kingdom! From now on, I really need to keep an eye on him.

Saul went from admiring David for his gift to disliking him for the same reason! David never changed; he did his best and received the praise he deserved even though he never asked for it. What, then, caused Saul to change his attitude towards David? [Let students answer.] Jealousy. He had always loved David until he heard that his people admired David more than they admired him. His people had acknowledged David, and Saul just couldn't accept the fact that David received more praise than he did from his people. David really got on his nerves, and this was all because of jealousy!

One day, a distressing spirit was bothering Saul. David, as other times, played music to help Saul cast out the evil spirit. But this time, Saul wasn't so happy that David was there. He had become so jealous of David that he had prepared to kill David! Saul had a spear ready in his hand as David played music for him. Suddenly, Saul cast the spear to pin David to the wall. Oh, no! Did David get hurt? What do you think? [Let students answer.] Saul actually attacked David twice. He was furious! But David didn't get hurt at all; he escaped from Saul's attack both times because God was protecting him. And Saul realized that, too! Let's see what he wrote on his journal that day in **Journal B**.

FOR TEACHERS

Journal B

The LORD is with David! There was no way David could have escaped from my presence if God wasn't there to protect him. What do I do now? Not only is God with David, but He has also left me... I used to feel God's spirit with me; He gave me wisdom and knowledge to sustain the kingdom of Israel. Now David has God on his side... I must do something to prevent him from taking over my kingdom. I should kill David.

In reaction to David's threat, Saul sent David to fight in battles as a captain over a thousand soldiers. He wanted David to be far away from him so that he wouldn't see him around the palace anymore. However, even though it was dangerous to fight in battles, David always came back to his people victorious since the Lord was with him. All Israel and Judah loved David. And because of this, Saul became increasingly upset and jealous of David. He felt so insecure about himself knowing that David had so much fame throughout all Israel. Saul would often think about David and put himself into a bad mood. He probably wasted a lot of time worrying about David's threat when he could have used the time he wasted to think about what he could do for his people in order to be a better king!

The next thing that Saul decided to do was to let David marry Merab, his older daughter. Isn't this a good thing? On the outside, yes, Saul was trying to make people think that he was giving his daughter to David for a perfect reason. He said to David, "Here is my older daughter Merab; I will give her to you as a wife. Only be valiant for me, and fight the Lord's battle." But what was he really thinking? Why did he send David to fight in battles? [Let students answer.] Saul wanted to give Merab to David only because he wanted David to be constantly put in danger by fighting in battles with their enemies. He couldn't kill David himself, so he thought he'd let the Philistines kill him! What a sly plan he had! Here you can really see that he doesn't have the spirit of God with him anymore—he believed that if David were dead, he'd feel much better. Why is that? Because he was so jealous! He let jealousy rule over his mind! He didn't care if the Lord was with David; all he cared was that he never see David again!

Now David, being a sincere man, didn't want to marry Merab because he felt unworthy. Let's find out what he said to Saul and complete **Journal C** in David's journal on Bible Discovery Worksheet #2.

FOR TEACHERS

Journal C

Today, the king offered Merab, his daughter, to me as a wife. As much as I felt honored, I rejected his offer because I didn't feel worthy. I said to the king, "Who am I, and what is my life or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?" Indeed, I didn't come from a royal family and I don't have the privilege to marry the king's daughter. The king has given his daughter to Adriel the Meholathite instead. The LORD is with me, and He will give me a wife according to His will and His time.

David was never a person to pursue after status or reputation. He was very humble, patient, and more importantly, faithful to the Lord. Sadly, Saul didn't see this about David. He was so jealous that he couldn't see the

truth about David. Nonetheless, God always has marvelous plans for His chosen people, including David! Michal, another of Saul's daughters, loved David. And when Saul found out, he was pleased because he thought his original plan would work out this time! What was his plan? Let's read together and complete **Journal D** on Bible Discovery Worksheet #1.

FOR TEACHERS

Journal D

Hahahahaha! My daughter loves David. I can easily use her to kill David without using my own hands! I will give Michal to David so that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines will be against him. If David still doesn't want to marry my daughter, I will say to him, "The king does not desire any dowry but one hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to take vengeance on the king's enemies." David will surely fall into my trap and soon be killed by the Philistines! I cannot wait!

Saul never stopped to reflect on how badly jealousy was making him act. He commanded his servants to go to David and say to him, "Look, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you. Now therefore, become the king's son-in-law." This was a complete lie. Did Saul really love David? In the past, he did love David, but he stopped loving David because of his jealousy. All he wanted was to see David die in the hands of their enemies. Saul's servants reported back to the king what David had said to them, "Does it seem to you a light thing to be a king's son-in-law, seeing I am a poor and lightly esteemed man?" David's thought was the same as before. He didn't feel worthy to be married to the king's daughter. But this time, Saul was determined to convince David. He sent his servants again to David, just as he plotted, and David was finally convinced. David thought that if he could give what the king wanted—one hundred foreskins of the Philistines, he could prove himself worthy to be the king's son-in-law. At that time, it was a custom for a man to give his future father-in-law a dowry before marrying his daughter. However, since David said that he was poor and lightly esteemed, Saul requested something different instead. As soon as the opportunity came, David went with his men to the battle and killed two hundred men of the Philistines. He also brought their foreskins back to the king so that he might become the king's son-in-law. Do you remember how many foreskins Saul wanted David to bring him? [Let students answer.] Yes, one hundred! But how many did David bring? Two hundred! God was certainly helping David in the battle. Now, Saul had to fulfill his promise. He let David marry his daughter Michal.

Things remained the same. Saul's plan was unsuccessful. He was even more afraid of David now because it was more and more evident that the Lord was with David. Every time David went out to war against the Philistines, he came back with more respect and admiration from the

people of Israel and Saul's servants. David always behaved wisely because God was on his side. Saul's heart was full of all this [show students their previous drawings again]. What is it called again? [Let students answer.] Jealousy!

One time, Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants and said that they should kill David. But Jonathan, being a good friend of David, turned to David's side because he knew that his father was wrong for wanting to kill David. Let's find out what Jonathan told David. [Have students read 1 Samuel 19:2-3.] "My father Saul seeks to kill you. Therefore please be on your guard until morning, and stay in a secret place and hide. And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak with my father about you. Then what I observe, I will tell you." And Jonathan did what he promised and spoke well of David to Saul his father. He said to Saul, "Let not the king sin against his servant, against David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his works have been very good toward you. For he took his life in his hands and killed the Philistine, and the Lord brought about a great deliverance for all Israel. You saw it and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood, to kill David without a cause?" Jonathan stood up for David, who was innocent from the beginning! David didn't fight the battles for fame; he fought because of his love for God and for God's people, and he won because the Lord was with him. He never held anything against Saul. Saul's anger stemmed from his jealousy towards David, not from actions David took against Saul. We always create jealousy on our own; other people do not place jealousy in our hearts! It was important for Saul to overcome this jealousy. Jonathan tried to explain to his father that David didn't deserve what he was trying to do to him, and that it was up to him whether or not he was willing to change himself.

This time, Saul seemed to understand Jonathan's words. He realized that David had no fault and therefore should not be killed. So he swore to Jonathan, "As the Lord lives, he shall not be killed." Not only so, Saul also asked David to come back and play music for him at the palace as he had done before. Everything seemed back to normal again when Saul was no longer jealous of David.

Time passed by and there was war again. David was once again sent out to fight the Philistines, and as usual, he struck them and the Philistines fled from him. What happened to Saul? The distressing spirit again came upon him. What did he have in his hand? [Let students answer.] A spear. Once again, Saul sought to kill someone. Who did Saul want to kill and why? [Let students answer.] David, because he became jealous of him all over again! Once more, Saul wanted to pin David to the wall with his spear. But David, as before, slipped away from Saul's presence, and the spear drove into the wall. David had escaped yet

another time. That same very night, Saul sent messengers to David's house to watch him and to take him in the morning to be killed. But this time, the person who helped David was not Jonathan, but another child of Saul! Who do you think it was? [Let students answer.] Michal, Saul's daughter who was married to David! Michal urged David to leave immediately, so she let David down through a window so that he could flee and escape. Then, Michal took an image and laid it in the bed, put a cover of goat's hair on it and covered it with clothes. Why do you think she did that? [Let students answer.] Michal probably did that because she wanted to delay Saul's discovery of the missing David. The next morning, Saul's messengers came to their house and asked to take David. Michal then told them that David was sick, lying in bed. Since the messengers saw the image Michal made, they believed her and reported what she had said to the king. But Saul wouldn't give up. He sent his messengers again and asked them to bring David up to him in the bed so that he might kill him. When the messengers went back to Michal and David's house, they realized that the image lying in bed was not David! Saul was very angry, not just because David had escaped, but also because Michal had deceived him. Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me like this, and sent my enemy away, so that he has escaped?" She explained to her father that David had pled with her to let him go and said that he didn't want to kill her in order to escape. In the end, David did get more time to run because of Michal. He went all the way to Samuel at Ramah, and told him everything that Saul had done.

Complete **Journal E** on Bible Discovery Worksheet #2.

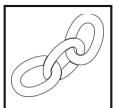
How did David feel having to flee? After all that had happened, David was still innocent. What was his reaction to Saul's attempts to kill him? [Ask students to read Psalm 59 first before completing the journal.]

FOR TEACHERS

Journal E

Saul wants to kill me. O Lord, deliver me from my enemies and defend me from those who rise up against me (v. 1)! I will wait for You for You are my strength and defense (v. 9). I am not afraid, O Lord. But I will sing of Your power and of Your mercy in the morning (v. 16). You have been my defense and refuge (v. 16) in the day of my trouble. I must rely on You during this time. You are righteous, and You will surely deliver me from the hands of Saul.

David wrote Psalm 59 when he was trying to escape from Saul's messengers. His life was in danger, but he never gave up holding onto his faith. David relied completely on God when he was facing Saul's persecution. Contrastingly, Saul never relied on God to overcome his jealousy towards David. Even though he knew that the Lord was with David, he completely disregarded that fact and remained focused on killing David. He later lost his kingdom because he had lost his faith and relationship with God. David never intended to take over Saul's kingdom of his own accord. He knew that God had a plan for him, and he waited patiently until God's timing to become the leader of Israel. In fact, Saul's persecution of David proved that he was defective as a king, and that David, in contrast, was an excellent candidate to replace Saul.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

The True Church

"For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ." (1 Corinthians 12:12)

We believe that the church is the body of Christ and that its members belong to that one body. Therefore, as members of the church, we must remain unified and support one another in our variety of jobs and functions. God has given each of us different roles so that we can work together using our given abilities to help the church grow. We should focus on using our gifts wisely to serve God rather than being jealous of what roles other people have. God makes all things work together according to His will, and we should always pray for His will to be done when serving Him.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **What did David use to do for Saul at the palace?** He used to play music on the harp to help cast out Saul's distressing spirit.
2. **What did the women of Israel sing when David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine?** They sang, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands."
3. **How did Saul try to kill David at the palace?** He tried to pin David to the wall with the spear he had in his hand.
4. **Who did Saul originally want to give to David as a wife?** Merab, his oldest daughter.
5. **What did Saul want David to do in order to marry Michal?** He wanted David to bring one hundred foreskins of the Philistines to him.

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. Saul; morning; secret; hide
2. servant; David; good; innocent; cause
3. A
4. C
5. "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands."
6. He swore, "As long as the Lord lives, David shall not be killed."
7. The Lord was with David; Michal loved David; David was accepted in the eyes of all Israel; the people of Israel esteemed David over Saul
8. Answers may vary. Possible answers: Focus on the abilities that God gave to me rather than what David could do better; pray to God for His spirit to dwell in me; etc.



Life Application

10 Minutes

1. Understanding Jealousy

Today, we learned that jealousy is a scary emotion. It comes from Satan, who wants us to feel bitter and unsatisfied. Saul failed to overcome jealousy and was troubled with a distressing spirit. He couldn't find any happiness even though he was a king. He worried day and night that David would take over his kingdom one day. So, what exactly is jealousy? Let's look deeper into King Saul's example in order to gain a better understanding of jealousy.

1. What made Saul jealous of David in the first place?

- 1a. People of Israel praised David, saying, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands."
- 1b. The Lord left Saul and was with David.
- 1c. David received praise and admiration from the people of Israel.

2. How did Saul feel when he was jealous of David?

He was angry, resentful, unhappy, dissatisfied, troubled, uneasy, insecure, anxious, etc.

Jealousy can trap us in a distressing world. Saul did not feel happiness after he changed his attitude towards David. If we get jealous easily, we can never be fully happy or live in harmony and peace with those around us. That is why it is very important that we understand what jealousy is and what it can do to us. We do not want to let ourselves fall into the trap of this ugly emotion.

3. What did Saul fear about David?

Saul was afraid that David would take over his kingdom one day.

4. David never threatened Saul nor did he show any intention to harm him or take away his kingdom. Who created Saul's fear about David?

Saul created his own fear of David. He was suspicious due to his jealousy towards David.

5. Saul didn't have to be jealous. How could he have changed the way he thought?

Saul could have accepted the fact that David was better than him as a man of war and rejoiced with the people when David returned from his battles with the Philistines. He could have also been more thankful that he had received many other blessings from God, even though God blessed David more in regards to fighting.

Saul's worries came from thinking that his people liked David more than they liked him and that they would eventually want David to be king rather than him. It is indeed true that David was to be the next king after Saul. However, David did not become king because the people loved him. David became king because God had chosen him to rule over His people, just as He had also chosen Saul to be the first king of Israel! With that said, Saul did not have to worry about being a bad king. God had already given him everything he needed to be king; if He hadn't, the people of Israel would have complained about how bad he was since the beginning of his reign! Saul wouldn't have been angry if he had only accepted the fact that David was better than him as a man of war. Saul wouldn't have been so envious of David if he didn't think that he always had to be the best!

* * * * *

2. Overcoming Jealousy

Jealousy begins in our heart. As we discussed earlier, Saul wouldn't have been jealous if he had looked at David's success from a different perspective. Saul's own pride caused jealousy to grow in him, and he had no one else to blame but himself. In order to overcome jealousy, we need first to change ourselves and the way we think. Have you ever felt jealous before? If so, what made you jealous? How did it all begin? How did you overcome it? Read the following scenarios and discuss each of them with your classmates and then answer the questions below.

Scenario #1: Michelle is a very good dancer. She dances a lot outside of school but not as a school activity. One day, a new student named Nicole came to her class and when she introduced herself, she told everybody that she loves dancing. Everyone in class, including the teacher, wanted to see her dance, so she did and she was amazing! Everybody applauded and welcomed her to the class, except Michelle. She felt bitter that Nicole was obviously a better dancer than she was. She didn't want to make friends with Nicole nor did she want her classmates to become friends with her. After school, Michelle secretly told her friends that, as a dancer, she knew that Nicole wasn't really that good. She made a lot of mistakes when she danced for the class, and she was trying to show off. That night, Michelle couldn't fall asleep. She kept thinking that Nicole was going to become so popular because of her dancing skills. Deep inside, Michelle knew that Nicole was a very good dancer, but she pushed herself to deny it so that she could feel better about herself. To prove that she was right, Michelle planned to ask her dance teachers to teach her Nicole's dance routine so that she could show her classmates that she was just as good a dancer as Nicole, if not better.

Questions

- 1. How did Michelle feel when she found out that Nicole was a better dancer than her?** She was jealous. She felt as if all her classmates denied her as a good dancer. She felt troubled and couldn't fall asleep at night.
- 2. How did Michelle treat Nicole?** She didn't applaud or welcome Nicole to the class. She talked falsely about Nicole and didn't want her to have friends.
- 3. Did Nicole do anything wrong or deserve the way Michelle was treating her?** No, Nicole did not do anything to deserve the way Michelle was treating her.
- 4. How might Michelle have felt differently if she had never compared herself with Nicole?** She would have been much happier. She would have welcomed Nicole to her class and possibly have become good friends with her since they shared the same interest and passion!
- 5. What can Michelle do to overcome her jealousy towards Nicole?** First of all, she can pray to God and ask for His help. She can put more focus on herself, to appreciate herself for being a good dancer and to strive to be better. She needs to stop comparing herself with Nicole or other dancers because their abilities don't mean anything! God created each of us in a special way, and we are each unique in the eyes of God. We all have different gifts, and we should be thankful for and content with the amazing things we can do already!

Scenario #2: James had been the first in his class to own a cell phone. He has so many cool games on his phone, and his classmates often asked if they could go to his house to play on his phone after school. Yesterday, Raymond, one of James' classmates, also got his first cell phone, too! It is the newest phone on the market—it was released last week and is very expensive! All of a sudden, James didn't like his phone anymore. He complained to his parents that his phone was too old, even though it is still one of the newest models. He doesn't want to go to school because he feels embarrassed that his phone isn't as good as Raymond's. He no longer invites his friends to his house after school to play on his phone because he thinks that everyone likes Raymond's phone better. What's more, he doesn't want to hang out with Raymond anymore or even see him around school. James cannot focus whenever Raymond is around.

Questions

- 1. How did James feel when he found out that Raymond had a better cell phone?** He was jealous. He felt unsatisfied with his phone because it was no longer the best and he felt embarrassed by it.
- 2. How did James treat Raymond?** He didn't want to be friends with Raymond anymore.
- 3. Did Raymond do anything wrong or deserve the way James was treating him?** No, Raymond didn't deserve the way James was treating him because he did not do anything wrong.
- 4. How might James have felt differently if he had never compared himself with Raymond?** He would have been much happier. His phone is still one of the best phones and his friends still love the games he has. However, James made the choice not to let his friends go to his house anymore. He didn't want to see Raymond because seeing Raymond reminded him that his phone wasn't as good as his!
- 5. What can James do to overcome his jealousy towards Raymond?** Instead of always wanting the best or the newest, James can learn to appreciate what he has. Most of his classmates do not even have cell phones. He can also ask Raymond if they'd all like to hang out together, instead of having to ask their friends to choose one over the other.



Activity

Find Your Gifts!

10-15 Minutes

God created each one of us in a special way. God placed different talents in us, and He wants us to use them wisely according to His beautiful plans for us! The Bible tells us that the church is the body of Christ; each of us represents a part of the body and we function differently to make this body complete and healthy! Is there a part of your body that you don't need? No! You need your eyes to see, nose to smell, and mouth to eat. Likewise, the body of Christ, that is, the church, also requires us to make use of our gifts wisely to serve its different needs. No man can take care of the entire church by himself. Therefore, we shouldn't let jealousy affect us as workers of the Lord. Moreover, we shouldn't have any jealousy towards brothers and sisters who have a gift that we don't have. We should focus on what we can do for the church instead of what we cannot do. God wants us to use our gifts wisely.

[Hand out the Activity Worksheet to the students now.]

So, do you know what your gifts are? How can you use them to serve the church? Here's what we are going to do!

1. On your Activity Worksheet, write down your name clearly so that your classmates can see it.
2. Then, pass this worksheet to the person on your right and receive the worksheet from the person on your left.
3. Look at the name written on the worksheet and think about what gifts you think this person has.

Don't hold back anything that you've seen or leave the paper blank; think carefully and use the helping words if any of them apply. Be appreciative of the gifts your friends have, as they are also writing down what they appreciate about you.

4. At the teacher's signal, pass the worksheet to the right.
5. Continue this until you receive your own worksheet back.

[You can also participate in this activity and write down your students' gifts. After the students have finished, ask each student to share one gift that his or her friends mentioned and talk about how he/she may use it to serve God. Help them if needed. If they chose to share a good quality instead of an actual ability, you can remind them that they can always use it to shine the light of Jesus and give glory to God!]

SAUL'S JOURNAL ENTRY

Journal A

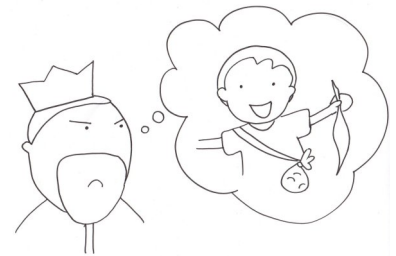
Today, David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine. Originally, I was really, really happy knowing that we no longer have to worry about the words from Goliath... But here comes another threat! The women say, "Saul has killed _____, and David _____." I am so _____.

David killed a giant, but what about all the Philistines I've killed before? How come David deserves more praise than I do? I _____ David. I am so worried... One day he is going to _____ my _____! From now on, I really need to keep an eye on him.



Journal B

The _____ is with David! There was no way David could have escaped from my presence if God wasn't there to protect him. What do I do now? Not only is God with David, but He has also left me... I used to feel God's spirit with me; He gave me wisdom and knowledge to sustain the kingdom of Israel. Now David has God on his side... I must do something to prevent him from taking over my kingdom. I should _____ David.



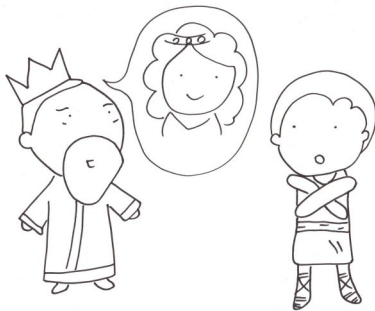
Journal D

Hahahahaha! My daughter loves David. I can easily use her to kill David without using my own hands! I will give _____ to David so that she may be a _____ to him, and that the hand of the _____ will be against him. If David still doesn't want to marry my daughter, I will say to him, "The king does not desire any _____ but one hundred _____ of the _____, to take _____ on the king's enemies." David will surely fall into my trap and soon be killed by the Philistines! I cannot wait!



DAVID'S JOURNAL ENTRY

Journal C



Today, the king offered _____, his daughter, to me as a wife. As much as I felt honored, I rejected his offer because I didn't feel worthy. I said to the king, " _____, and what is my life or my father's family in Israel, that I should be _____ - _____ - _____ to the king?" Indeed, I didn't come from a royal family and I don't have the privilege to marry the king's daughter. The king has given his daughter to _____ the Meholathite instead. The _____ is with me, and He will give me a wife according to His will and His time.

Journal E

Saul wants to _____ me. O Lord, _____ me from my enemies and defend me from those who rise up against me! I will wait for You for You are my _____ and _____. I am not afraid, O Lord. But I will sing of Your _____ and of Your _____ in the morning. You have been my defense and _____ in the day of my trouble. I must rely on You during this time. You are righteous, and You will surely deliver me from the hands of Saul.



Understanding Jealousy

Today, we learned that jealousy is a scary emotion. It comes from Satan, who wants us to feel bitter and unsatisfied. Saul failed to overcome jealousy and was troubled with a distressing spirit. He couldn't find any happiness even though he was a king. He worried day and night that David would take over his kingdom one day. So, what exactly is jealousy? Let's look deeper into King Saul's example in order to gain a better understanding of jealousy.

1. What made Saul jealous of David in the first place?

1a.

(Hint: What did the women say about when David returned from the slaughter of Goliath?)

1b.

(Hint: Who left Saul, but was with David?)

1c.

(Hint: What did David receive from the people of Israel?)

2. How else did Saul feel when he was jealous of David?

3. What did Saul fear about David?

4. David never threatened Saul nor did he show any intention to harm him or take away his kingdom. Who created Saul's fear about David?

5. Saul didn't have to be jealous. How could he have changed the way he thought?

Overcoming Jealousy

Scenario 1

Michelle is a very good dancer. She dances a lot outside of school but not as a school activity. One day, a new student named Nicole came to her class and when she introduced herself, she told everybody that she loves dancing. Everyone in class, including the teacher, wanted to see her dance, so she did and she was amazing! Everybody applauded and welcomed her to the class, except Michelle. She felt bitter that Nicole was obviously a better dancer than she was. She didn't want to make friends with Nicole nor did she want her classmates to become friends with her. After school, Michelle secretly told her friends that, as a dancer, she knew that Nicole wasn't really that good. She made a lot of mistakes when she danced for the class, and she was trying to show off. That night, Michelle couldn't fall asleep. She kept thinking that Nicole was going to become so popular because of her dancing skills. Deep inside, Michelle knew that Nicole was a very good dancer, but she pushed herself to deny it so that she could feel better about herself. To prove that she was right, Michelle planned to ask her dance teachers to teach her Nicole's dance routine so that she could show her classmates that she was just as good a dancer as Nicole, if not better.



Questions

1. How did Michelle feel when she found out that Nicole was a better dancer than her?

2. How did Michelle treat Nicole?

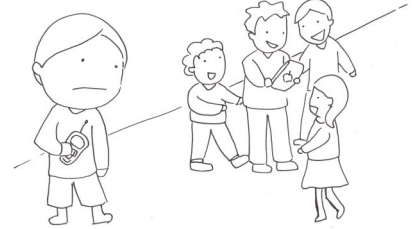
3. Did Nicole do anything wrong or deserve the way Michelle treated her?

4. How might Michelle have felt differently if she had never compared herself with Nicole?

5. What can Michelle do to overcome her jealousy towards Nicole?

Scenario 2

James had been the first in his class to own a cell phone. He has so many cool games on his phone, and his classmates often asked if they could go to his house to play on his phone after school. Yesterday, Raymond, one of James' classmates, also got his first cell phone, too! It is the newest phone on the market—it was released last week and is very expensive! All of a sudden, James didn't like his phone anymore. He complained to his parents that his phone was too old, even though it is still one of the newest models. He doesn't want to go to school because he feels embarrassed that his phone isn't as good as Raymond's. He no longer invites his friends to his house after school to play on his phone because he thinks that everyone likes Raymond's phone better. What's more, he doesn't want to hang out with Raymond anymore or even see him around school. James cannot focus whenever Raymond is around.

**Questions**

1. How did James feel when he found out that Raymond has a better cell phone?
2. How did James treat Raymond?
3. Did Raymond do anything wrong or deserve the way James was treating him?
4. How might James have felt differently if he had never compared himself with Raymond?
5. What can James do to overcome his jealousy towards Raymond?

FIND YOUR GIFTS!

Helping Words

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------|---------------|
| musical | patient | artistic | compassionate |
| caring | diligent | friendly | humble |
| easy-going | organized | active | positive |

Hello, _____!

God made you in a very special and unique way. Did you know that? He also gave you many gifts/talents that He wants you to use to serve and glorify Him! Here are just a few we can think of...

Gift/Talent	How you can use it to serve God and His church

E2 Year 2 Book 3 Lesson 3—Saul Is Jealous of David

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Weekly Bible Reading: _____

Bible Reading: Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

Prayer: Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (**Proverbs 14:30**)

Fill In the Blank

1. Jonathan told David, saying, "My father _____ seeks to kill you. Therefore please be on your guard until _____, and stay in a _____ place and _____."
2. Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father, and said to him, "Let not the king sin against his _____, against _____, because he was not sinned against you, and because his works have been very _____ toward you. Why then will you sin against _____ blood, to kill David without a _____?"

Multiple Choice

3. _____: Saul was worried that David would _____.
 - a. Take over his kingdom
 - b. Kill him with a spear while he played music for him
 - c. Take his daughter as a wife
4. _____: David initially did not want to be the king's son-in-law because he _____.
 - a. Already knew that it was a trap
 - b. Was worried that his brothers would be jealous
 - c. Was poor and lightly esteemed

Short Answer

5. What were the women saying when David returned from the slaughter of Goliath?
6. What was Saul's reaction after Jonathan explained to him that David was innocent?
7. List 3 reasons that Saul was jealous of David.
8. If you were Saul, what would you have done to overcome jealousy?