

FATHOM KIDS CLASSROOM WORKDAY Saturday, March 4. 9a.

Lunch provided. fathomchurch.org/info

INTRODUCE

Well, if you have your Bibles, and I hope you do,

- please grab them and turn to 1 Samuel chapter 19.
- You can open a phone or a tablet to 1 Samuel 19,
- or you can use one of the hard-backed black bibles
 - under every single chair.
 - You'll find 1 Samuel 19 on page **242**.

INTRODUCTION

So, let me fill you in on what we're doing today...

and for the remainder of our 1 Samuel sermon series.

- We are on chapter 19
- and we have to get through to chapter 31.
 - And my goal is to do this by Mother's Day,
 - so we can close this 3-year series.
- So, that's 13 more chapters,
- and we only have 10 Sundays to cover them.

Now, I'm not that good at the maths...but those numbers don't add up.

- So, there will be some weeks, like today,
- where we'll cover a much larger section of text
- than we normally do.

Today we'll cover all of chapters 19 and 20, so I'm calling the sermon:

SLIDE ALL OR NOTHING

- That also means that we won't be reading
- each and every word of the text,
 - but rather,
- I'll do more highlighting and summarizing of these narratives.

But as you'll see,

- chapters 19 & 20 are really one big story,
- and to chop it up would actually be unfaithful to the text.

TRANSITION

So, let's get into it. ALL OR NOTHING

- I'm gonna walk us through the text,
- and then there are some really important things
- to apply at the end.

So, here we go...1 Samuel 19. Verse 1.

BLANK SLIDE

1 SAMUEL 19:1

[1] And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David. But Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted much in David.

EXPLAIN: CONTEXT

So, all three characters of our text are introduced in the first verse.

First, King Saul:

- Israel's first king.
- He started so well,
 - but in multiple cases he rebelled...
 - against God in disobedience.
- In this life you will always either say,
 - *"Thy will be done,"*
 - or, *"my will be done."*
- And Saul has shown that he is much more concerned
- with his own will than the will of the Lord.

Second, Jonathan, Saul's son.

- Jonathan is a godly and valiant young prince.
- He's the heir-apparent to his father's throne.
 - BUT after seeing David kill Goliath,
- he becomes convinced that David
- is destined to be the next king of Israel,
 - and in a deep and loving friendship,
 - honors him by giving him his princely robes,
 - and armor,
 - and weapons.

And finally, David.

- David will be Israel's second king, and their greatest king.
- But right now he is just a young man,
- in King Saul's military service.
 - After killing Goliath, he won the favor of all of Israel.
 - He has won the friendship of Jonathan, the king's son.
 - And last week we saw
 - that he even won the hand of Michal,
 - Saul's youngest daughter,
 - and has now married into the family.

So, as we just read, Saul hates that David is moving up the food chain.

- He realizes that David is a legitimate threat to his throne,
- and so in verse 1 we see,
 - for the first time,
- Saul making his murderous intent known...
 - to both Jonathan and to his servants.
- He's revealing his intent to his inner circle.

EXPLAIN: 19:2-5

Now, in verses 2-5

- Jonathan tries to convince his father NOT to kill David
 - because his deeds have actually acted
 - to serve Saul and bring him good.

And in verse 6 we read this:

1 SAMUEL 19:6

[6] And Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan. Saul swore, "As the LORD lives, he shall not be put to death."

EXPLAIN: FLIP FLOP

Saul's hand is stayed, at least for the moment.

- So, David returns to Saul's service,
 - and there is another battle with the Philistines,
 - and David just crushes them.

But the harmful Spirit comes back upon Saul, and look at verse 10:

1 SAMUEL 19:10

[10] And Saul sought to pin David to the wall with the spear, but he eluded Saul, so that he struck the spear into the wall. And David fled and escaped that night.

And that's strike three.

- This is actually the third time Saul tries to kill David
 - with his spear...
- not to mention the, at least, three times
- he's tried to get David killed in battle.

So, this time David is out. He runs.

EXPLAIN: 19:11-17

Now, in verses 11-17 Saul tries to kill David again...this time at his home.

- But his new bride, Michal, warns him,
- and they essentially do the stuffed body in the bed trick.

Think: Lord of the Rings, or Ferris Bueller's Day Off...ok?

- Michal lets David escape through the window,
- and tells her father's servants that David is sick in bed.

And here's Saul's response in verse 15:

1 SAMUEL 19:15

[15] Then Saul sent the messengers to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him."

- Well, they find the dummy,
- report to Saul,
- and he's furious with his daughter!

But now David is legit on the run!

- He runs to the prophet Samuel in verse 18-24,
- and when Saul sends men to capture him,
 - the Spirit of God comes upon them
 - and they start prophesying.

It's like they're bewitched by the Spirit and are unable to capture David.

TRANSITION

But in chapter 20 something really interesting happens.

- David runs back to his best friend, Jonathan,
- and he essentially asks,
- *“Bro, what have I done that your dad is trying to kill me?”*

And here’s Jonathan’s response:

1 SAMUEL 20:2-4

[2] And he said to him, “Far from it! You shall not die. Behold, my father does nothing either great or small without disclosing it to me. And why should my father hide this from me? It is not so.” [3] But David vowed again, saying, “Your father knows well that I have found favor in your eyes, and he thinks, ‘Do not let Jonathan know this, lest he be grieved.’ But truly, as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, there is but a step between me and death.” [4] Then Jonathan said to David, “Whatever you say, I will do for you.”

EXPLAIN: THE PLAN

So, Jonathan doesn’t believe it.

But David is adamant...he’s says,

- *“Dude, I am one step away from death.”*

So, Jonathan says,

- *“Alright, what do you want to do?”*

Here's the plan:

- David will skip the monthly banquet
 - that Saul has with all his generals,
- and when Saul asks Jonathan where David is,
- Jonathan will tell him that David had a family issue,
 - and they figure if Saul gets furious,
 - then that shows he had plans to kill David.

They hatch this plan, and they come up with a sign so that Jonathan can communicate to David what happens at the banquet.

And the plan is executed. Verse 27:

1 SAMUEL 20:27-34

[27] But on the second day, the day after the new moon, David's place was empty. And Saul said to Jonathan his son, "Why has not the son of Jesse come to the meal, either yesterday or today?" [28] Jonathan answered Saul, "David earnestly asked leave of me to go to Bethlehem. [29] He said, 'Let me go, for our clan holds a sacrifice in the city, and my brother has commanded me to be there. So now, if I have found favor in your eyes, let me get away and see my brothers.' For this reason he has not come to the king's table."

[30] Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said to him, "You son of a perverse, rebellious woman, do I not know that you have chosen the son of Jesse to your own shame, and to the shame of your mother's nakedness? [31] For as long as the son of Jesse lives on the

earth, neither you nor your kingdom shall be established. Therefore send and bring him to me, for he shall surely die.” [32] Then Jonathan answered Saul his father, “Why should he be put to death? What has he done?” [33] But Saul hurled his spear at him to strike him. So Jonathan knew that his father was determined to put David to death. [34] And Jonathan rose from the table in fierce anger and ate no food the second day of the month, for he was grieved for David, because his father had disgraced him.

EXPLAIN

So, there you have it: Saul becomes furious.

- And his response, well...
- this is the ancient equivalent to cussing Jonathan out!
 - They don't quite flow off the tongue as easily, right?
 - *“You son of a perverse, rebellious woman!”*
 - Try using that next time you get mad!
 - Actually, maybe don't...
- But he makes his heart and motives quite plain in verse 31:
 - *“as long as David lives,*
 - *neither you nor your kingdom shall be established!”*

And when Jonathan pushes back on his dad just a bit,

- *“What has he even done?!?”*
- Saul takes a spear and throws it at him...his son.

So, they have their answer. Saul wants to kill David.

EXPLAIN: REPORT

So Jonathan goes out to David,

- who is hiding in the woods about 30 miles away.

And they have this little prearranged signal:

- Jonathan shoots some arrows out into a field
- and tells his servant boy to go and retrieve them.
- If he tells the boy, *“The arrows are beyond you!”*
 - that means that David is in danger.
- If he says, *“The arrows are in front of you,”*
 - that means David is safe.

So he shoots the arrows and says,

- *“The arrows are way beyond you.”*
- So David knows he’s in mortal danger.

TRANSITION

And their parting is such a sad scene.

- These are two best friends...
 - and while this isn’t their exact last time together,
- they won’t really get much more time together...
- before Jonathan’s untimely death.

Look at verse 41:

1 SAMUEL 20:41-42

[41] And as soon as the boy had gone, David rose from beside the stone heap and fell on his face to the ground and bowed three times. And they kissed one another and wept with one another, David weeping the most.

[42] Then Jonathan said to David, "Go in peace, because we have sworn both of us in the name of the LORD, saying, 'The LORD shall be between me and you, and between my offspring and your offspring, forever.'" And he rose and departed, and Jonathan went into the city.

EXPLAIN: TYPOLOGY

Now, I could really dig into this story, and gosh,

- there are so many good things in here
 - about the importance of friendship,
 - and community,
 - and having other people get your back.

But that would be largely redundant

- since Joel preached on Jonathan and David's friendship
- just a few weeks ago.

But there is also something much deeper going on here.

We talked about this back in chapter 16, but in the Bible,

- David functions as a reflection, pointing us to someone else.
- He's known as a Christological Typology.
 - That is, in David, we see shadows...
 - that find their substance in Jesus Christ.

So, what I want us to do with the remainder of our time today

- is to look at how this story is a reflection...
- of something much bigger for us to consider.

APPLICATION: SAUL

You see, 1 Samuel 18-20 is using the stories of Saul and Jonathan

- to illustrate the two ways WE might respond
- to God's TRUE KING.

They both realize that David is next in line.

- God's TRUE KING has been revealed.
- But they respond in two polar-opposite ways.

Saul rejects God's TRUE KING.

And I think 1 Samuel 20:31 accurately sums up Saul's response:

SLIDE 1 SAMUEL 20:31

[31] For as long as the son of Jesse lives on the earth, neither you nor your kingdom shall be established. Therefore send and bring him to me, for he shall surely die."

We've seen that THE MOST IMPORTANT THING for Saul is HIS kingdom.

- It is the thing he will sin to protect.
- It's the thing he'd lie to protect.
- It's the thing he'd use his family and friends to protect.
- And ultimately, it's the thing that he would even kill to protect.

- He tries to KILL David
- to keep God's TRUE KING
- off of HIS throne.

POINT 1

And this is one way that WE can respond to the TRUE KING.

We can respond with **SLIDE HOSTILE RESISTANCE**

- And I'm pretty sure this is how I've responded...
- to almost EVERY confrontation...
- with the TRUE KING...
- at least at first.

ILLUSTRATIONS: FRIENDS

I remember the first time I was confronted with the fact that:
I couldn't hang out with the same friends after becoming a Christian.

- I couldn't keep doing the same things I used to do,
- because I wasn't the same person I used to be.

And whenever I hung out with those guys I did those old things!

And through a youth leader's challenge,

- I recognized that if I wanted to follow the TRUE KING,
- I was going to need some new friends.
 - He told me, *"show me your friends,*
 - *and I'll show you your future."*

But man, I RESISTED.

SEX

And I remember the first time in college I was confronted with:
I shouldn't be looking at porn now that I'm a Christian.

And listen, I wanted to follow God!

But this was a difficult one.

- How was I going to break a habit that started in 5th grade?
- I didn't know it at the time,
 - but my brain had to literally be rewired!

And I made all the excuses:

- *"This isn't really hurting anyone..."*
- *This is actually keeping me from sinning sexually with girls...*
- *This is just my burden to bear..."*

It was a HOSTILE RESISTANCE to what I knew the TRUE KING wanted!

MONEY

And then when Maryse and I got married,

- one of her non-negotiables
- was that we were going to give
- our first 10% of our finances
- to our church.

And I was confronted with: I have never given a penny of my money!

And I knew the TRUE KING wanted my first and my best.

But listen...I needed that money!

But by nature, Maryse is far more generous than I am.

- So we gave when we were making 18k at my first job...
 - And I RESISTED in my heart.
- And we gave when we weren't sure...
- how we were going to pay all our bills.
 - And I was HOSTILE in my heart.
- And we still give it today.
 - And listen, it's still really, really hard.
 - I still look at the money and think about what I could buy

I am STILL tempted to HOSTILE RESISTANCE!

ILLUSTRATION: TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

And you're like,

- *"Well, pastor, that seems a bit harsh!*
- *Like, that's not being HOSTILE to Jesus.*
- *You're taking those things too seriously."*

And to that I would remind you of one event in Jesus' life.

- To inaugurate his final week before he was killed,
- Jesus, on Palm Sunday,
- entered into the city of Jerusalem.

And the crowds freaked out!

- They start spreading out the garments on the road,
- and cutting palm branches and laying them before him
 - for this donkey-riding messiah to ride in on.
- And they shout *"Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!"*

You see, they are recognizing that Jesus is the TRUE KING!

- He's the Son of David!
 - David was the shadow,
 - and now they are worshiping the substance!

But the TRUE KING turned out NOT TO BE what they hoped...

- They wanted a conquering king.
- Not a king who would suffer and die...

And this crowd, who on Sunday was chanting,

- *"Hosanna to the Son of David!"*

Would be chanting a different message on Friday.

Because when Pontius Pilate, asks the same crowd what he should do

- with the man called the King of the Jews?

They don't chant,

- *"Hosanna to the TRUE KING"*

No. They chant, *"Crucify him! Crucify him!"*

TRANSITION

And so, no,

- you may not feel HOSTILE to Jesus...
- but any confrontation from the TRUE KING...
 - can quickly move from excitement,
 - to indifference,
 - to hostility.

That's what happened with Saul. HOSTILE RESISTANCE.

APPLICATION: JONATHAN

But this is juxtaposed to how Jonathan responds to the TRUE KING.

- And while there are many verses
- that point to Jonathan's response to David,

I think 1 Samuel 20:4 sums it up best for me:

SLIDE 1 SAMUEL 20:4

[4] Then Jonathan said to David, "Whatever you say, I will do for you."

POINT 2

Jonathan gladly bows his knee to David,

- even though to do so...
 - meant he had to give up all his claims to the throne
- and even though to do so...
 - caused a lot of strain in his family.

His response to the TRUE KING was *"Whatever you say, I will do!"*

- With Saul, we saw HOSTILE RESISTANCE.
- But with Jonathan it's
- **SLIDE HUMBLE SURRENDER**

Jonathan is a picture of what it means to surrender to Jesus as King.

Jesus said to come to him...

- we have to walk away from our claim to the throne,
- and be willing to forsake everything
- if we want to be his disciples.

- We have to be willing to forsake our families...
 - To forsake our finances...
 - To forsake our struggles...
 - To forsake our successes...
 - TO EVEN FORSAKE OUR VERY LIVES!
- And wanting a good marriage,
 - or healthy finances,
 - or even success isn't a bad thing.

But Jesus teaches us that we have to hate those things.

Remember this verse?

SLIDE LUKE 14:26

[26] "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple."

APPLICATION

Now, these sayings seem harsh.

- *"I've gotta hate my family?"*
- *"This seems pretty harsh, Jesus."*

But Tim Keller calls this "comparative hate", not "active hate".

We aren't to hate our family *actively*, but *comparatively*.

You wanna know the price of following Jesus?

- It's a devotion and love and obedience and reverence
- that makes every other relationship
- comparatively look like hate.

ILLUSTRATION: PET

So, imagine you have a pet.

I'd guess you love that pet.

- Unless it's a cat...
 - and then you're just kinda stuck with it...
 - just waiting for it to die...
 - so you can get a real pet...
 - like a dog
 - or a hamster
 - or goodness...even a lizard...
 - anything except a cat.

But you love your pet and you're committed to it.

Some of you spend a lot of money taking care of it.

But I would imagine that as committed as you are to that pet,

- your love for your pet pales in comparison
 - to your love for your children,
 - or your spouse,
 - or your best friend.

And if you just had to think about that, that's not good!

But for all of you,

- if you had some situation
- where you had to choose between the life of your pet
 - or the life of your kid,
- it's no contest.

You're committed to your pet,

- but compared to the intensity
- of your commitment to your child...

your commitment to your pet seems like hate.

APPLICATION

God's not calling you to actively hate your family or even yourself.

He's saying,

- *"if you want to be my follower,*
 - *the price is loyalty to me over everything.*
- *Your love for me will make every other love in your life*
 - *look like hate, comparatively."*

And this is why Saul is so upset. Remember verse 30:

"You son of a perverse, rebellious woman, do I not know that **you have chosen the son of Jesse [the TRUE KING] to your own shame..."**

You see, church,

- This text is ultimately about
- how we respond to the TRUE KING.

CONCLUSION

And the bible says that it's **SLIDE W/PADS** **ALL OR NOTHING**

There are only two choices:

- you either bow before him in surrender,
- or you call out for his crucifixion.

How do you respond when the TRUE KING arrives?

- Do you try to kill him, lest you lose your kingdom?
- Or do you give him everything and pledge your loyalty to him?

This is how TRUE KING calls people to follow him.

G.K. Chesterton famously said this,

SLIDE *“Christianity has not so much been tried and found wanting, as it has been found difficult and left untried.”*

ENDING

So, two questions for you as we close:

First, **SLIDE** **HAVE YOU SURRENDERED** to God?

- God has brought some of you...
 - to this church,
 - on this Sunday,
 - listening to this sermon...
- and he is saying to you,
 - *“It’s time to stop resisting...”*
 - *it’s time to stop running...*
 - *it’s time to surrender...”*

Don't you realize how meaningless life is without God?

Haven't you felt the emptiness of pursuing your own kingdom?

- Today is the day to lay down your 'yes' to God...
- to surrender your life to the TRUE KING.

HAVE YOU SURRENDERED?

- If not, you can today.
- You just pray, "*Jesus, I surrender all to you!*"

And then the second question,

- for those of you who HAVE surrendered,
- I ask you, **SLIDE** **ARE YOU SURRENDERED** to God?

Surrender isn't a one-time thing,

- but it is something you must do
- over and over and over again.

You may have surrendered at some point,

- but are you still resisting him...in some way?
 - Maybe it's your friends...
 - who keep pulling you back to who you used to be.
 - Maybe it's some addiction...
 - sexual or drug or drink...
 - and you just can't seem to break it...
 - Maybe it's your money...
 - and you're digging your heels in...
 - to what the TRUE KING wants from you.

Maybe it's something totally different...

- but today you realize you are resisting him!

For you, today, you need to cry out to him again...

- You pray that same prayer of surrender.
- *"Jesus, I surrender all to you."*

HAVE you surrendered...and ARE you surrendered?

It's **SLIDE ALL OR NOTHING**

ENDING

Church,

- move from hostility to humility.
- Move from resistance to surrender.

God will stop at nothing to get you.

- To pursue you.
- To cause you to stop and turn.
- He is relentless in his pursuit of those he loves.
- And he loves you.

So, will you surrender?

Let's pray.

RESPONSES:

Well, every week at Fathom we respond in 4 ways:

- COMMUNION – THE LORD’S SUPPER
- GIVING TITHES & OFFERINGS – fathomchurch.org/give
- PRAYER - fathomchurch.org/prayer
- SINGING

So, I’m going to read the Words of Institution from the Apostle Paul, we’ll take communion, and then we’ll sing:

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23–26 – WORDS OF INSTITUTION

[23] For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, [24] and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” **TAKE**

[25] In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” **TAKE**

[26] For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Love you church, let’s stand and sing together.

RESOURCES CONSULTED:

- Davis, Dale Ralph. Focus on the Bible. 1 Samuel: Looking on the Heart.
- Greear, J.D. *You've Got A Friend In Me*.
- Tripp, Paul. *David and Jonathan*.
- Tsumura, David Toshio. The New International Commentary on the Old Testament. The First Book of Samuel.