

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

It's Not You, It's Me

Week 4: The Honoring of Parents
1 Samuel 19:1-8

Week of May 10, 2020
(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

How we treat our parents is extremely important to God. The Lord has commanded us to honor them. Jonathan's father, King Saul, was a moral disaster and yet Jonathan found a way to respectfully confront his dad. We can learn much from Jonathan's example on how to honor our parents.

Kicking it off: How is God using this quarantine to build your character?

Discussion:

1. Reread *1 Samuel 19:1* Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David.

Try to describe what Jonathan must have felt when he heard his father give this instruction.

2. Reread *1 Samuel 19:3* Jonathan said to David, "I will go out and stand with my father in the field where you are. I'll speak to him about you."

We learned that Jonathan's plan to "stand with his father" was a decision to demonstrate that he still supported his dad. Why do aging parents especially need to know that we are committed to "support" them and stick with them through life?

3. Reread *1 Samuel 19:4* Jonathan said to Saul, "Let not the king do wrong to his servant David."

In referring to his dad by the official title, Jonathan tried to show "respect" to a deeply flawed father. How can we show respect if we don't feel respect for our parent?

4. Reread *1 Samuel 19:4* Jonathan said to Saul, "What David has done has benefited you greatly."

How did Saul benefit from David? What would you do if your parent could not see clearly what living situation would best benefit them?

5. Reread *1 Samuel 19:5* Jonathan said to Saul, "David killed the Philistine and the LORD won a great victory for all Israel. Why then would you sin by killing David?"

How does this statement demonstrate Jonathan's concern for his father's spiritual condition? Why is it so difficult for many people to initiate a spiritual conversation with their parent?

6. How would you guide someone wanting to know how they could explain the gospel to a spiritually lost parent?

Wrapping It Up: Pray for the courage and wisdom necessary for each group member to honor their parents really well.