

Power That Destroys

Big idea:

Not all power is good. Not all power is bad. What motivates those who wield it. There is a “Jesus Way”.

Big Question: How do we use power?

Power and...

Power has a relationship with M_____.
Power has a relationship with international relations.
Power has a relationship with I_____.
What are the motives of those seeking to influence you through information?

Power has a relationship with R_____.

Our relationships... For good or for bad.

Telling our S_____ in light of God

Aldersgate 101 -- Spiritual A_____
** So helpful for the speaker and the listener. A101.
We don't tell other peoples' stories without their permission, unless... they are in the B_____.

David & Saul

David was a teen. Saul was first king of Israel.
Saul's F_____ made him deeply troubled.

Saul became very afraid of David. (1 Samuel 18 & 19)

Saul told Jonathan and others to K_____ David.

But the next day, the second day of the month, David's place was empty again. Then Saul said to his son Jonathan, “Why hasn't the son of Jesse come to the meal, either yesterday or today?”

Jonathan answered, “David earnestly asked me for permission to go to Bethlehem. He said, ‘Let me go, because our family is observing a sacrifice in the town and my brother has ordered me to be there. If I have found favor in your eyes, let

me get away to see my brothers.’ That is why he has not come to the king's table.”

Saul's anger flared up at Jonathan and he said to him, “You son of a perverse and rebellious woman! Don't I know that you have sided with the son of Jesse to your own shame and to the shame of the mother who bore you? As long as the son of Jesse lives on this earth, neither you nor your kingdom will be established. Now send someone to bring him to me, for he must die!”

“Why should he be put to death? What has he done?” Jonathan asked his father. But Saul hurled his spear at him to kill him. Then Jonathan knew that his father intended to kill David. Jonathan got up from the table in fierce anger; on that second day of the feast he did not eat, because he was grieved at his father's shameful treatment of David.

1 Samuel 20:27-34

Power and Fear

Saul was afraid of losing power.

Fear can make us mad at people we have no reason to be mad at... even those within our own families.

Fierce anger can run in the family. Even those aspects of our parents we resolve to not replicate...

Ask God to help you not try to control others through coercion or manipulation.

Fear and Trust

The A_____ of fear is trust.

Fear is the A_____ of trust.

Trust is a good gift of God. Used well (i.e. placed in God), it leads to joy and peace. Misused it leads to fear. Why?

Trust placed in ourselves...

Trust placed in someone else...

Next Steps

- 1) Scrutinize the motives of those seeking to influence you through information.
- 2) Learn/Practice sharing God's story in your life.
- 3) Ask God to help you refrain from trying to use power to control other people.