



Part 20 - "Who Has My Allegiance?" | 1 Samuel 20 | 4.19.26

→ Saul's Drift into Sin Revealed — 1 Samuel 20:24-34

- Saul has fully moved from seeking the LORD to resisting the LORD
- (v24) New Moon Feast — a traditional Hebrew celebration of the LORD at the beginning of the month
- (v25) The seating arrangement matters — David was expected to be there
- (v26) Saul assumes David's absence must be ceremonial uncleanness
- (v27) "the son of Jesse" = a way of diminishing David as an outsider
- (v28-29) Jonathan is testing his dad
- (v30) Saul's reacts with highly offensive, verbal abuse — feels betrayed
- (v31-33) abusive words led to violent action (*without* a spirit; 16:14, 18:10, 19:9)

→ Consider This:

What's *evil* in the eyes of the LORD has become *good* in the eyes of Saul

→ The enemy's strategy of fear

- Saul's resistance reflects the same pattern of deception seen in Genesis 3...
 - Fear distorts reality, magnifies threat, and erodes trust in the LORD
 - deception grows, leading to misplaced allegiance and resistance to God

→ Three Allegiances: Saul, Jonathan, and David

- Saul's allegiance is to himself rather than the LORD
- Jonathan's allegiance is first to the LORD, even when it costs him personally
- David remains loyal to the LORD while still honoring Saul as king

→ Loyal Love that Aligns with God — 1 Samuel 20:42

- *hesed* (Hebrew) = loyal love — steadfast, unbreakable, unyielding, heartfelt allegiance
- (Exodus 34:6) God Himself is abounding in *hesed*
- (20:8, 14-15) Jonathan & David show *hesed* toward each other and God's plan
- Saul's tragedy shows what happens when fear replaces trust in God's kingdom

→ Consider This:

Where have I placed my loyal love? Who has my ultimate allegiance?

→ **Main Takeaway:** Seeking God's kingdom and His righteousness is the only way we can see through the smokescreen and recognize truth in the middle of all the noise.

→ Going Deeper

1. Read 1 Samuel 20:30–33. What does Saul's reaction reveal about how fear can distort our perception of what really is good?
2. Read Exodus 34:6–7. How does God's *hesed* shape the way we show loyal love to others?
3. Read Matthew 6:33 & Philippians 4:8-13. What competes for your allegiance in your life? What would it look like for you to be truly "content"?

→ Next Step: Read Psalm 23 and Pray:

"Lord, please help me see the areas in my life where my allegiance to You is challenged. Help me to walk in loyal love to You, and not fear. Help me to seek Your ways above all else. In Jesus' Name, Amen."