



Icebreaker:

What is your favorite thing about Christmas?

Announcements:

Invite someone to join you for our upcoming “Star Wars” series.

Prayer Time:

Pray for our upcoming Christmas outreaches and services. Invite a friend.

Study Questions:

How can the Christmas season increase our struggle with jealousy and envy? How can these emotions undermine the season of joy and peace?

Read 1 Samuel 18:5–9. How did Saul get to the place where he drew the drastic conclusion in verse 8– that “what more can he get but the kingdom.” Why was he only seeing David as a threat? What is another way he could have looked at David’s success? Why didn’t Saul ever ask God

how he should respond to David’s increased status?

What do the following verses say about envy and jealousy– what impact do they have on our lives– what outcomes can we expect when these emotions remain unchecked: Job 5:2; James 3:14–16; Proverbs 14:30; Mark 7:21–22; Proverbs 23:17–18; Exodus 20:17; Galatians 5:19–21; Psalm 37:1–3; 1 Peter 2:1–2.

Why are we sometimes unwilling to celebrate the success’ of others? How can envy and jealousy factor into this? What would Saul have had to do differently to celebrate David’s success’? What do we have to do differently to celebrate other’s success’? How does our spiritual focus and faith help us?

How did Saul use his energy in detrimental, unproductive, and ungodly ways– see 1 Samuel 18:10–17. What would have been a better use of his energy?

Why are we so prone to compare our lives to others people’s highlight reel? What do we learn from the story of the young couple from CA?

According to Proverbs 23:17–18 why is it unnecessary to envy other people?

Conversational Prayer: Dear God help me...