

SHIPWRECKED POSSESSIVENESS: KING SAUL & DAVID

1 Samuel 9-22

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“We” is stronger than “me.”

Insecurity fuels possessiveness. Insecurity stems from a misplaced value.

Context

- Saul had advantages: Good looks and raised in a wealthy home – 1 Samuel 9:1-2 *There was a man of Benjamin whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, son of Zeror, son of Becorath, son of Aphiah, a Benjaminite, a man of wealth. ²And he had a son whose name was Saul, a handsome young man. There was not a man among the people of Israel more handsome than he. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people.*
 - Saul lacked character.
 - Saul lacked stick-to-it-ness.
- Possessiveness almost always has a reverse effect:
 - Lie: “The more I hold onto [this] (power, money, credit, influence, etc.), the safer I will be.”
 - Truth: The more you share influence, time, money, and credit, the greater the returns are to you.
- Saul forgot that he was interim king: We are all in interim professional roles.
- Saul was for “Me,” but David was for “We.”

Steps

- You may not be able to control *The Tone* of the situation, but you can control *Your* tone.
- Ask God’s help to obey one of the most challenging verses in the Bible: Romans 12:15 *Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.*

- Find your joy in building up others. Then your legacy and influence will live on.

Proverbs 10:7 *The memory of the righteous is a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot.*

- Publicly and privately give away credit. Affirm vs. Tear down.

“Level 5 leaders have the humility to aspire to be the dumbest person in the room.” – Jim Collins

- In conversations, consider others more highly than yourself (Philippians 2:3): Ask questions and let them share.
- Criticizing stuff is easy. Building relationships is tough. Surround yourself with builders rather than critics.