

1 Sam 18:9

9 And Saul eyed David from that day and forward.

KJV

In the bible, there are many stories of broken relationships. There is Cain and Abel. There is Joseph and his siblings. There is Moses and his siblings. There is Saul and David. Saul was the King of Israel. David was the future King. At that time, the Kingdom of Israel was the Kingdom of God on earth. Working together, Saul and David could have expanded the Kingdom of Israel to fulfill all that God intended the nation to become. But one of the reasons that Saul missed this blessing was because of his broken relationship with David.

What caused this broken relationship? Relationships are based on trust. There can be no unity without trust. Divorce in any relationship is first and foremost a broken trust in the relationship. Reconciliation is the process of restoring broken relationships by restoring trust.

Saul chose not to trust David. I Samuel 18:9 says that Saul began to look upon David with suspicion.

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The word eyed means to look with suspicion.

Saul had already been told that his position as King would be given to another. David did not do anything to deserve this. Saul was jealous. At one time Saul was little in his own sight. But after he became King, Saul esteemed himself more highly than he should. He had already disobeyed God on two occasions to gather for himself the esteem of the people. Now He was not satisfied with just working behind the scenes while David received all the praise.

David was extremely gifted. David did not determine these differences. God did.

There are several sins in the heart that can cause this kind of unjustified suspicion in a relationship.

- **Bitterness.**
- **Guilt.**
- **Greed.** The desire for something that God does not want you to have.

Perhaps Saul suffered from all three. But for Saul, the bible says it was greed.

Because of his suspicion, Saul sinned against David in at least three ways.

1. **Uncharitable judgments**

When Saul heard things about David, instead of believing the best about David, he believed the worst. He questioned David's motives. He questioned David's character. He questioned David's integrity.

When we hear something about another person, maybe a supposed wrong they have committed, or maybe something that causes us to question his motives, our first thought as a Christian should be charitable.

To be charitable in our judgments means to give them the benefit of the doubt until you have the facts to prove otherwise. We should think the best of him. Anything less is not love.

If we make an uncharitable judgment in our heart by assuming the worse, we are guilty of judging that person in an evil way. Scripture is consistent in condemning uncharitable or unrighteous judgment of a brother.

*Pro 31:9 Open thy mouth, judge righteously,
Matt 7:1-2 Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.
John 7:24 Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.*

Uncharitable judgments are the cause of so many broken relationships.

If you are guilty of uncharitable judgments, to be right with God, you must repent of what is in you that has caused you to look upon another with suspicion. You must confess your sin and seek forgiveness from those who have been injured and affected by your uncharitable judgments. Then you can begin the work of fully restoring trust with your brother by avoiding this sin in the future.

You cannot hide the sin of uncharitable judgments. It will be seen in your attitudes and comments that you make.

If you do not repent, it will cause you to do what Saul did next.

2. **Whispering**

Saul began to share his uncharitable judgments with others. Instead of giving David the benefit of the doubt and going to David with his concerns, Saul went to others and whispered. David said...

Ps 41:7 says, All who hate me whisper together against me; Against me they devise my hurt.

A whisperer is one who secretly or privately passes on evil reports to others. An evil report can involve some facts but it also involves...

“distortion of facts, incomplete facts, or false information. It is given with wrong motivations and causes the hearer to come to inaccurate conclusions, and to respond with unscriptural “solutions”. Evil reports are so destructive that they can even destroy long-lasting, close friendships.” A whisperer separateth chief friends (Pro 16:28). (How To Guard Against the Defilement of Listening To An Evil Report, Bill Gothard, IBYC 1981)

Whispering is giving a bad report in secret about someone before you have gone to them in love. This prevents them from telling their side of the story or clarifying facts that would remove the concern.

A whisperer can even believe they are speaking to others with the best of intentions. There is no exception in the scriptures for Kings to “whisper” about another. It is wrong for anyone, even for elders, to “whisper”, or to accuse others in secret.

Eph 4:29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

James 4:11 Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of [his] brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

Whispering will lead others to also make uncharitable judgments. Whispering separates friends, destroys trust, and causes conflict.

If you have been a whisperer, you must repent of what is in you that has caused you to be a whisperer. Then you must confess you sin to everyone that has been injured or affected seeking their forgiveness. Then you can then seek to rebuild trust in the relationship by avoiding this sin.

How do you avoid this sin of being a whisperer?

You can start putting off this sin when you refuse to participate in this sin with others. When someone comes to you who is a whisperer and begins to whisper to you about your brother, you must refuse to participate.

If you listen and do nothing you have sinned!

You must stop them. You must ask them if they have gone to your brother and shared their concern.

Matt 18:15

15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

KJV

If they have, you must then ask them if they are coming to you because they want you to be a witness based on Matthew 18:16.

Matt 18:16

16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

KJV

If they have not or if they have and they are not coming to you because they want you to be a witness, you must reprove them and tell that what they are doing is wrong. If they will not repent, you must go to those who are responsible for them.

Jonathan tried to do this with Saul. Saul would not listen. Saul even turned on Jonathan. As a result Saul committed a third sin in his relationship with David.

3. Casting Doubt

Because of Saul’s evil conduct, David had to flee from Saul. Saul then publicly began to casting doubt upon David’s reputation. He falsely accused him to the whole nation. In

his pride, he sought to prove that he was right in the eyes of the people which was so important to Saul. The entire nation became aware of the broken relationship between Saul and David because Saul would not humble himself and repent of these sins. Some sided with Saul. Some sided with David.

The nation of Israel was divided all because one man was guilty of uncharitable judgments, whispering, and casting doubt. It could have been the greatest season of prosperity for the nation of Israel and the Kingdom of God on earth. Instead, the story of Saul and David ends in one of the greatest tragedies in the bible.

God desires for every member of Western Hills Church to be able to stand before Him with a heart purified of these sins. These sins have done great injury to individuals. They have done great injury to families. They have done great injury to our church family.

The church now represents the Kingdom of God on earth. For at least the last five years, these sins have prevented our church family from experiencing the prosperity that God desires for us in ministry to this community. The distrust and damage that these sins have caused the Kingdom of God cannot be measured.

The A/C has become aware that there are those in our church who are guilty of these sins who have not repented of these sins. We have all committed these sins. We do not expect anyone to be perfect to be in our fellowship. We do expect our members to be honest and open with a willingness to change when they are guilty of sin.

The A/C has appealed to those who are guilty to repent but they have not. Matthew 18:17 says...

Matt 18:17

17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: KJV

Before those who are guilty are made known the church, we are calling upon our church to examine ourselves for the next seven days. Are you guilty of making...

- Uncharitable judgments
- Being a whisperer
- Casting doubt

Matt 7:3-5

3 And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?

4 Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye?

5 Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

KJV

If God reveals to you that you are guilty of these sins, to turn from these sins you must repent of whatever is in you that has caused you to commit these sins. You must then go to those you have injured and those who have been affected and confess these sins seeking their forgiveness.

If you have not stopped someone from being a whisperer, you need to go to them and tell them you were wrong for listening to what they said and call them to repent. If they will not repent, then you must go to those who are responsible for them.

How can we as a church call anyone to repentance if we are guilty of the same fault?