

**Today's Message: "Tale of Three Kings"**

**Saul ~ David ~ Absalom**

Scripture references:

- Saul is a tall, handsome man - I Sam. 9:2
- The people wanted a king like the other nations - I Sam. 8:6
- Saul's early success as King - I Sam. 10:10,10:27,11:11,14:47
- Saul's illegal sacrifice - I Sam. 13:8-15
- Disobeyed God's instructions regarding Amalekites - I Sam. 15:1-9
- David is one of eight children. Anointed king of Israel - I Sam. 16:6-13
- David would seek to soothe Saul's moods with music - I Sam 16:23
- David becomes one of Saul's armor bearers - I Sam. 16:21
- David and Goliath - I Samuel 17
- "Saul has slain his thousands; David his ten-thousands" - I Sam. 18:7
- Saul throws spear at David - I Sam. 18:10-16
- Saul and David in the cave - I Sam. 24
- Death of Samuel - I Sam. 25
- Saul routed and sons slain by Philistines - I Sam. 31
- David becomes King of Israel - II Sam. 5
- David brings Ark to Jerusalem - II Sam. 6
- Absalom at the city gates - II Sam. 15:2-6
- Absalom deceives David to go to Hebron - II Sam. 15:7-12
- Absalom's Conspiracy - II Sam. 15
- David leaves Jerusalem - II Sam. 15:13-17
- Absalom enters Jerusalem - II Sam. 16:15-23
- David victorious and Absalom is killed - II Sam. 18
- David mourns Absalom - II Sam. 18:33

Book Recommendation: "Tale of Three Kings" – by Gene Edwards

**The Struggle with Submission**

- Offensive Aggressive
- Passive Aggressive

*"If you're a young leader heading into ministry, I'll tell you this. I've never met a tremendous Godly leader who did not spend a significant portion of his early years making someone else look better." - Matt Chandler*

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### Motivations for Submission

- **Better** before Bigger
- **Order** before Blessing - *“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”*  
Matthew 6:33

*“It was time for him to go to the Father. Jesus loved his disciples who were in the world. So he now showed them how much he really loved them.” (John 13:1, NIRV)*

*<sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, <sup>4</sup> rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. <sup>5</sup> Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. (John 13: 3-5, ESV)*

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### Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions:

1. What was one insight you learned about one of the three Kings (Saul, David, or Absalom) that you may have never considered before?
2. Define “authority” in your own words. Define the word “submission” in your own words. Describe someone you know that has a difficult time with submitting to authority.
3. On a scale of 1 – 10, a 10 being I am able to consistently and willingly submit to authority and a 1 being I struggle each and every time submitting to any and all authority. Where are you on that scale? Are there particular forms of authority you have more or less trouble submitting to?
4. Would you consider yourself more “offensive aggressive” or “passive aggressive” when it comes to submitting to authority?
5. The song lyrics for the closing song read; “At the cross... I am sweetly broken, wholly surrendered.” Is it possible to be “wholly surrendered” (submitted) to God’s authority in your life?
6. What areas of your life do you find easier to be wholly submitted to God? What areas do you tend to struggle in being wholly surrendered to God?

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