



Tri-Village Sermon Discussion Questions

Topic: *The High Cost of Success*

Text: 1 Samuel 17:55 – 18:30

Service Date: January 18, 2026

Note: The questions are only a starting point for discussion. Don't hesitate to modify, adapt, or highlight only specific ones to fit your group and/or personal study.

Getting Started

- Take a moment to go to tri-village.org/yourstory or scan the QR code. In your group, are there 2-3 stories you could submit of how God has recently been working? (We're encouraging this to become a regular part of your group each time you meet this year.)



- Share with the group something that you felt God saying to you this week through your time reading His Word or in your prayer time.
- What's an area that you struggled with this week? Is there something you struggled to understand from the sermon or your own reading?

Sermon Discussion

- Have you ever experienced any kind of life changing success at some point in your life? What are some of the challenges faced after achieving this success?
- After David's defeat of Goliath, he could have become very proud and arrogant, yet 1 Samuel 18 records three times that he was victorious because of the Lord. Why is humility so difficult after big achievements? What temptations do we have to face in moments of great success?
- Even though David had served Saul previously, Saul asks who David's father is after the battle. When you experience a "win" or a promotion at work or in your community, how do you handle the sudden shift in how people perceive you?
- In 1 Samuel 18:7, the women sang, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands." In our world of social media and performance reviews, how do you protect yourself from the sting of being "out-performed" by someone else?
- Read Mark 10:42-45 together. Once you have read the passage, discuss the similarities between this passage and Saul and David's methods of leadership. How did David model Jesus' teaching in how he handled his relationship with Saul?
- Saul became insanely jealous of David after his defeat of Goliath. Have you ever struggled with jealousy? How can jealousy tear apart our relationships?
- On Sunday, Paul said "Jealousy typically hits us in areas where we are most familiar." What does jealousy often reveal about our struggles with ourselves?
- David's life changed forever following his success.. How can we ensure our identity remains rooted in our relationship with God rather than our latest success or failure?

- Saul tried to get rid of David by putting him in the line of fire, but David only became more successful. We have seen times in our lives when things are going really well for someone we may not care for. What should our response be in times like this?
 - 1 Samuel 18:1 says, “Jonathan became one in spirit with David." In a world of surface-level "followers" and "friends," what does it take to build a "knit-together" spiritual friendship today? Share a time that you were struggling and found your own “Jonathan”.
 - While we often feel like we are in need of an encouraging friend, there may be someone that needs you right now. How can you be a “Jonathan” to someone else this week?
-

This Week’s Action Response

- As Christians, humility is key to following Jesus’ example. David stayed humble by retaining his submissive spirit and refusing to take credit for his success. This week, let us keep a submissive, servant heart that gives all the glory and praise back to God in all things.
-

Help Make a Difference

- Many people look online when choosing a church. If you’re able, please log in to Google and leave a review for Tri-Village Christian Church. Your positive review can help others discover Tri-Village.
- Our Souper Bowl drive for non-perishable food items runs until February 8. Items can be dropped off in the large metal bin in the Cafe.