

LEADER TIPS

Sermon Description

Psalm 91:1 sets the thematic tone for 1 Samuel 18 when it says, “The one who lives under the protection of the Most High dwells in the shadow of the Almighty.” As believers live out their faith today, what does it mean to live under the protection of the most high and dwell in the shadow of the Almighty? 1 Samuel 18:17-30 is the description of this reality. As we witness in David’s life, living under God’s protection and dwelling in His shadow is to be covered from schemes, carried through snares, and cast into success. On this side of the cross, we are ultimately placed in the success of Christ’s resurrection. To dwell in God’s shadow is to live reassured that we can trust Jesus to lead us, knowing there are dynamics at play in our lives now that may be hidden and potentially revealed later through the opening of our eyes. It is resting in the assurance that though schemes and snares persist, unbeknownst to us, God is actively near and at work, continuing to lead us into the ultimate success we have in Christ Jesus.

DISCUSSION PRIMER

Can you think of a moment in the past that grown in its significance over time? How has God given you wisdom and a knowledge of His presence since then?

SERMON OUTLINE

“IN THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY” 1 SAMUEL 18:17-30

Big Idea: God covers his children from schemes and snares placed by the enemy and the world. Though Christians live in a world of spiritual hypocrisy hostility, God ultimately carries believers through hardship into the success of Christ through faith.

Sermon Outline

- ❖ **Psalm 91:1**
- ❖ **Covered from Schemes v.17**
- ❖ **Carried through Snares vv.20-21**
- ❖ **Cast into Success vv.28-30**

INTERSECTION: How does the text intersect with our lives?

1. What are the dangers of spiritual hypocrisy?
2. How does this danger lend itself towards scheming?
3. How can our success in Christ’s death and resurrection empower and comfort us during trails and temptations?
4. How might this truth be celebrated in life?

REPLICABLE QUESTIONS

Read **1 Samuel 18:17-30** and explore together what the passages reveal about:

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) The character and purposes of God? | 4) Our identity in Christ? |
| 2) The fallen human condition? | 5) Our obedience to Christ? |
| 3) The gospel of Jesus Christ? | 6) Our relationship to others |

APPLICATION: “So, what now?”

Have each participant identify a personal take-away in light of this study. Is there . . .

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| • a command to obey? | • a beauty to behold? | • a mission to fulfill? |
| • a promise to claim? | • a truth to believe? | • an example to follow? |
| • a sin to repent of? | • a service to render? | • a person to tell? |