

Michal: The Disillusioned Wife

(1 Samuel 18-19; 25:42-44 and 2 Samuel 3:12-16; 6:16-23)

I. OUR INABILITY TO CONTROL (Gen 3:16) *WE ARE NOT GOD.*

A. Life Is Not Fair. () *The playing field is not equal. We are not born with a blank slate.*

1. The situation into which we are born
2. The physical and emotional makeup that we inherit
3. The actions of others that impact us

B. No One Is Autonomous. (1 Cor 11:11-12)—*We are all connected to other people*

C. We Cannot Control Our Husbands. (Gen 3:16)—*but we try!*

1. Method—*usually manipulative*

2. Motive

a. **Sometimes Selfish**—*just want things my way*

b. **Sometimes Oblivious**—*don't realize being bossy, disrespectful,*

c. **Often Fearful**—*think it's up to me to keep everyone safe, happy*

II. OUR PROPENSITY TO IDOLATRY () *OUR HUSBANDS ARE NOT GOD.*

A. There Is No God but God. (Ex 20:2-3)

1. **You are not God.** Don't try to take his place in your husband's life.

2. **Your man is not the Messiah.** Don't expect him to be.

B. Disillusionment Reveals a Faulty Worldview. (2 Sam 6:16)

1. **Self-Centered**

2. **Small**

C. Don't Come between A Man and His God. (2 Sam 6:16-23)

1. Give God His proper place. You are not the Holy Spirit.

2. Honor your man's human dignity.

- a. He is a unique individual. He has his own issues.
- b. He is an adult. At the very least, *he is your equal.*
- c. He is dear to God. *Honor him for his Father's sake.*
- d. He has his own relationship with God. (2 Sam 6:21)
- e. Grant him the same respect that you expect from him. (Mat 7:12)
- f. Think what other women see. (2 Sam 6:22) *His good points*

III. OUR ANTIDOTE TO BITTERNESS (Eph 4:31-32) *JESUS IS GOD!*

A. Marriage is not a woman's highest calling. God's glory is!

- 1. Not all women are called to marriage.** (Mat 19:10-12; Acts 21:8-9) Some women are called to glorify and enjoy God as singles.
- 2. If you are married, your husband is not the most important person** in your life; *Jesus is.* (Mat 4:10; Deut 6:13)

B. Marriage is a mission from God.

- 1. Your husband is not your Savior.** (Is 43:1; Ps 42:5; Hab 3:18)
- 2. Your husband does not own you.** (1 Cor 6:19-20 & 7:23)
- 3. You work for Jesus.** (Mat 16:27; 25:21, 23; Rom 14:4)

C. There is a greater romance. (Ps 63:3; Jn 10:10; 17:3; 1 Jn 5:11-12)

*Someday your Prince **will** come! You've just been looking to the wrong man.*
(Zech 9:9; Mat 21:5; Jn 12:15; Ps 24:6-10).

LISTEN TO "I Will Wait for You" (Shane & Shane).

<https://youtu.be/l8pCbtLeXzc>

Lesson 8: Michal

Read 1 Samuel 18 – 19; 25:42-44 and 2 Samuel 3:12-16; 6:16-23.

1. Who was Michal and how did she get to be David's wife?

2. After Michal helped David escape from her father's attempt to murder him, David lived in exile for some years. What took place while David was gone that changed the relationship between David and Michal?

3. When David demands to have Michal returned to him, how does her second husband, Paltiel, respond? How was Paltiel different from David in regard to his relationship with Michal?

4. Why do you think Michal despised David when she saw him dancing before the ark of the LORD as it entered the city?

5. Why did Michal have no children to the day of her death? How does this reflect on David?

6. David is remembered as one of the greatest heroes of the Bible, the man after God's own heart; Michal is remembered as a scornful, bitter woman. Do you think this is a fair assessment of their characters? Could you give them a little more nuance?

7. Marriage—even Christian marriage to a good man—is no guarantee of happily ever after. Can we still have a good life, even when we don't have a man or when our man profoundly fails us? How can we avoid becoming bitter and cynical? Where is our hope?

8. If Jesus has been there for you through disappointment or heartbreak, if you are willing, please share what He has become to you through this experience.