

WHEN YOUR SEAT IS EMPTY, WILL YOU BE MISSED?

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A Sermon Outline

Presented to

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By

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**TEXT:** 1 Samuel 20:18

**THESIS:** Our Christian lives must positively affect others both physically and spiritually so much that they would wish to be with us always.

## INTRODUCTION

1. When places you have been before are mentioned, who are the people that first come in my mind and why?
2. In all the places you have been throughout your life, what will in the minds of the people there the moment your name is mentioned?

## Background to the Text

1. David has been introduced to serve the King Saul with all his ability. (1 Sam 16:23)
2. Goliath and the Philistines challenged the people of Israel with war. (1 Sam 17:1-11)
3. David came into the picture and saved them from the situation by killing Goliath. (1 Sam 17:51).
4. King Saul felt threatened by the fame of David's good deeds, and because the people in the all cities heard what he did and spoke about it. More so, the women praise and sang for him. So, he sorts to kill David from that time. (1 Sam 18:8-11)

Godly living leaves imprints in people who will continue to miss our presence when we are no more. Such lives affect people so much that, the seat (role, position, etc.) we occupy in their lives would become empty and they will miss us. (1 Sam 20:18, Acts 20:25, 37-38).

I will discuss with you four (4) reasons why people will miss you when your seat is empty. People will miss your absence ...

- I. IF YOU ARE A HELPER
- II. IF YOU DEVELOP AND USE YOUR TALENT
- III. IF YOU SHOW LOVE TO OTHERS
- IV. IF YOU BEAR FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

## **DISCUSSION:**

### **I. IF YOU ARE A HELPER.**

- A. We are to be imitators (followers) of God who first helped us. (Eph. 5:1-2)
  - 1. God helps us in times of needs. (Isa. 41:10)
  - 2. When all hope is lost, He shows up with all the help we need. (Ps 121:2, 124:8)
- B. We are commanded to help people. (Gal. 6:2, Prov 3:16)
  - 1. Helping others is not a choice, it is an obligation. (Phil. 2:4)
  - 2. We must do good to all, especially those in the faith. (Gal. 6:10)
- C. Helpers will be missed when their seats are empty.
  - 1. Dorcas was missed in Joppa because of her assistance to others. (Acts 9:36-39)
  - 2. David was going to be missed by Jonathan and others. (1 Sam 20:18)
  - 3. Paul missed his companions. (2 Tim. 4:9-12, 16)
- D. A Helping person is ...
  - a. Not lazy but hardworking. (Eph. 4:28)
  - b. Not selfish. (Phil 2:3-4)
  - c. Knowledgeable
  - d. Reliable and consistent
  - e. Kind and comforter
  - f. The Holy Spirit is a helper and comforter. (John 14:16, 26)
  - g. We are to comfort others.
- E. Our lives will be spoken of one day. (1 Pet 2:9-12).
  - 1. If we are good to people
  - 2. If we are genuine helpers
  - 3. Just as David did in the lives of King Saul, the people of Israel and Jonathan.

### **II. IF YOU DEVELOP AND USE YOUR TALENT**

- A. David's uniqueness made him irreplaceable. (1 Sam. 20:18)
  - 1. David developed his talent to be unmatched. (1 Sam 16:18). He was
    - a. skillful in playing a harp
    - b. mighty man of valiant
    - c. man of war
    - d. prudent in matters
    - e. comely person
- B. David was the only person with unique skills to drive out the evil spirit. (1 Sam 16:23)
  - 1. God uses a prepared person (2 Tim 3:17)
  - 2. Our uniqueness will make people miss us or not.
- C. Jesus wants us to be unique and irreplaceable in our Christian lives towards the world. (Matt. 5:13-16).

1. He wants us to be the light of the world.
2. He wants us to be the salt of the world.
  - a. Why didn't He say sugar but salt?
3. An irreplaceable person is ...
  - a. Unique in how he does things
  - b. Bold and confident
  - c. Valuable
  - d. Smiles and laughs at/with everyone
  - e. Companion and second to none

### **III. IF YOU SHOW LOVE TO OTHERS**

- A. A new commandment he has given us, to love one another. (John 13:34)
- B. Love must be without hypocrisy. (Rom 12:9-13)
- C. If we say we love God, but hate his brother, he is a liar. (1 John 4:20)
- D. A person who has Love for others is a loving person with these traits: (1 Cor. 13:4-6)
  - a. Affectionate for even the enemy (Matt 5:44)
  - b. Put others first (Phil. 2:3)
  - c. Suffer long (2 Pet. 3:8-9)
  - d. Not envy
  - e. Not puffed up
  - f. Truthful and sincere
  - g. Respect for others (Phil 2:3-5)
- E. When love is shown, everyone wishes it would have stayed forever, hence those who show them will always be missed when their seats are empty.

### **IV. IF YOU BEAR FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT**

- A. David exhibited the fruit of the spirit.
  1. God's spirit comes on him. (1 Sam. 16:11-13)
  2. He was pure in his heart with no hatred for Saul. (2 Sam. 1:10-14)
  3. Even after years David was mindful of Saul (his enemy's) house. (2 Sam 9:1)
- B. We are to bear the fruits of the spirit if we live in the spirit. (Gal. 5:22-23)
- C. If we have the spirit of God, we will be able to create seats in people's heart which no one could occupy in our absence.

### **CONCLUSION**

1. When you are no more, when your seat is empty, will you be missed?
2. If you possess the above as in; a helper, and have developed your unique talent, Love people, and bears fruits of the Spirit of God then you will be missed. Then your seat can be empty in your absence.

3. Remember people miss others when they are in times of
  - a. Difficulties and troubles; Needing a helper.
  - b. Darkness and looking for a talented unique person who can give light to them.
  - c. happiness or sadness and need the fruits of the Spirit.

4. Which seat do you occupy in your family, the church, among your friends such that in your absence (when you are dead or get transferred from your place) they would miss you?

**Invitation:**

If you are a visitor, why don't you create a seat today, why not now? All you will do is to

**Believe** the gospel today. (John 8:24)

Jesus dies for the sins of the world so that you can be saved.

**Repent** and Turn toward the Lord (Acts 2:38, 3:19, Acts 26:16-18)

**Confess** The Lord Jesus. (Acts 8:37)

**Be Baptized.** (Mark 16:16)

To wash away your sins that you can call on the name of the Lord and be saved. (Acts 22:16)

I want to ask you again; When your seat is empty, will you be missed?