

Sunday, July 14th, 2024
1000 Oaks Bible Church

**Cultivating Healthy Relationships:
“Patience”**



Matthew 22:36-40 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”

37 And He said to him, “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’

38 This is the great and foremost commandment.

39 The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’

40 Upon these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets.”

A. Probably one of the greatest relational skills to have is the ability to handle disagreement and conflict in a biblical way. We talked about Forgiveness previously but Patience stops a problem before it even starts.

B. An **argument** is an emotional, often forceful dialog whereby two people try to convince the other to join their personal perspective.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcPztZhGe84>

(0:00-1:00)

I. SHIMEI ATTACKS DAVID

*** II Samuel 16:5-8 When King David came to Bahurim, behold, there came out from there a man of the family of the house of Saul whose name was Shimei, the son of Gera; he came out cursing continually as he came.**

6 He threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David; and all the people and all the mighty men were at his right hand and at his left.

*** II Samuel 16:5-8 7 Thus Shimei said when he cursed,
“Get out, get out, you man of bloodshed, and worthless
fellow!**

**8 The LORD has returned upon you all the bloodshed of
the house of Saul, in whose place you have reigned; and
the LORD has given the kingdom into the hand of your
son Absalom. And behold, you are taken in your own evil,
for you are a man of bloodshed!”**

A. Shimei is a descendant of King Saul, whom the LORD rejected. Saul was the king from whom David inherited the throne. Anger, bitterness, and resentment have been building up in Shimei's heart for years.

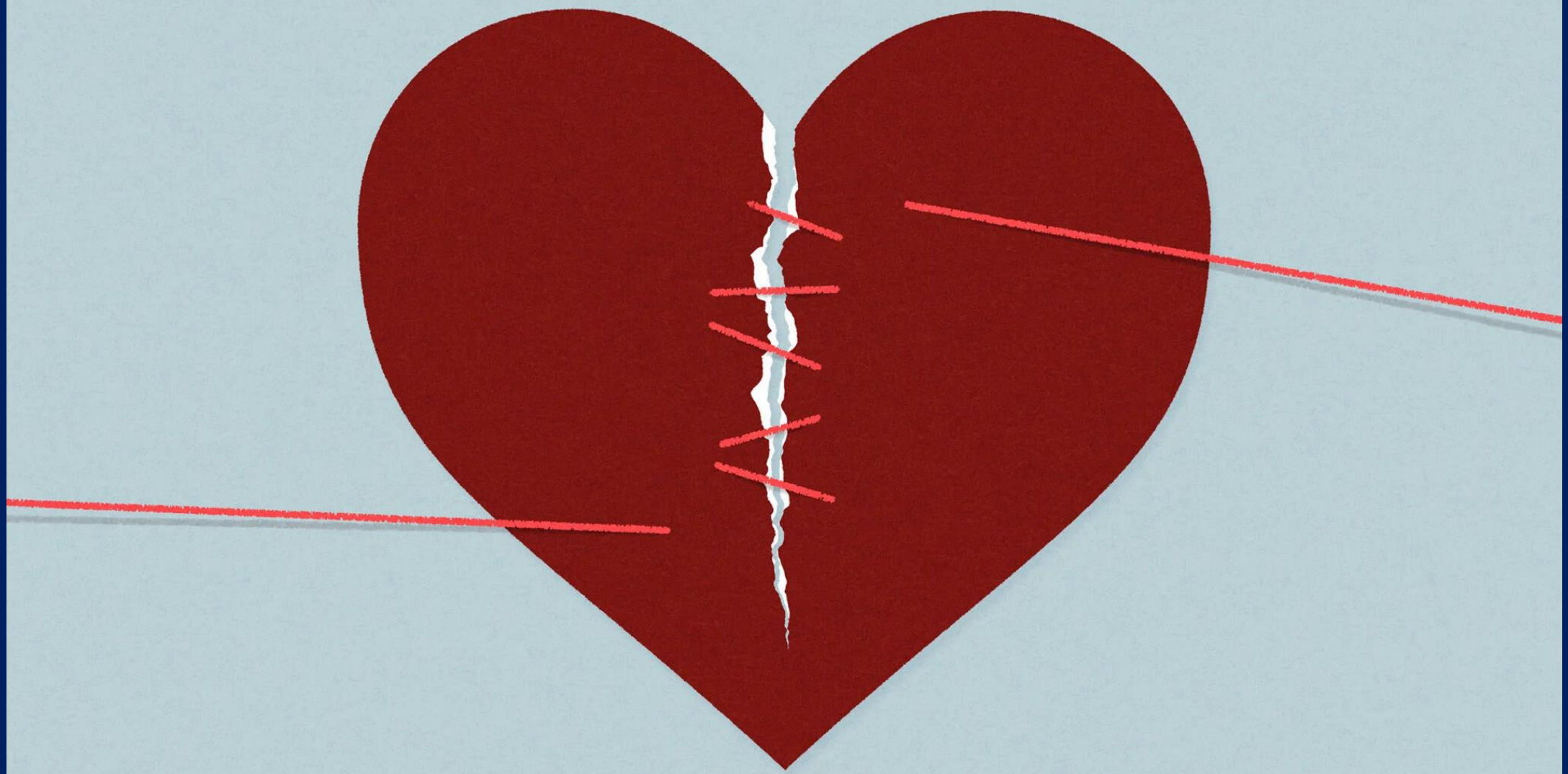
B. He's cursing continually, throwing stones, shouting, untrue things at David, and making wild accusations. All of this he does in front of David's followers and friends. Imagine how you would feel if you were David.

C. Those first few moments when a person confronts you with anger or accusations is critical. The situation has been doused with gasoline... the whole thing can go up in flames. Hearts will be crushed.

* What you do first determines the direction this will go.

D. What I will tell you right now is this: even when the words and actions of others seem loudest, there is another voice to listen to... your Heavenly Father's. Listen to Him, He loves you.

- 1. Psalms 34:18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.**
- 2. Psalms 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted, and bandages their wounds.**



II. DAVID RESPONDS TO THE ATTACK WITH PATIENCE

*** II Samuel 16:9-14 Then Abishai the son of Zeruah said to the king, “Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Now let me go over and cut off his head.”**

10 But the king said, “What business of mine is yours, you sons of Zeruah? If he curses, and if the LORD has told him, ‘Curse David,’ then who should say, ‘Why have you done so?’”

*** II Samuel 16:9-14 11 Then David said to Abishai and to all his servants, “Behold, my son who came out of my own body seeks my life; how much more now this Benjaminite? Leave him alone and let him curse, for the LORD has told him.**

12 Perhaps the LORD will look on my misery and return good to me instead of his cursing this day.”

13 So David and his men went on the road; and Shimei kept going on the hillside close beside him, and as he went he cursed and threw stones and dirt at him.



A. Have I brought God into the situation? Psalms 3:1-3
A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

O LORD, how my adversaries have increased!

Many are rising up against me.

2 Many are saying of my soul, “There is no deliverance for him in God.” Selah.

3 But You, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the One who lifts my head.

B. David is saying, “The opposition is increasing. The volume is getting louder. The accusations and mockings are in my face...”

*** But You...** There is the Fire Extinguisher! Don't make the fire worse, subdue it through the LORD.

C. David let Shimei speak because he saw the hand of God in every circumstance (the LORD has said to him). He knew that God was more than able to shut Shimei up. His responsibility - Patience.

D. David let Shimei speak because he knew that God's hand was on the future as well as the present. **(It may be that the LORD will look on my affliction, and that the LORD will repay me with good for his cursing this day)**

* David knew that if he did what was right in the present moment, God would take care of the future.

* CURBSIDE

A. Cultivating healthy, biblical relationships mean we must employ patience. Even the “best” people will still have times they disappoint you or let you down.

B. No need to go into “self-defense” mode when people attack us. Take the word, “**You**” out of your vocabulary.

* The best thing to do is follow David’s example – leave it in the LORD’s Hands. Jesus is the One who does all things well, all the time.

C. Proverbs 19:11 A person's wisdom has made them slow to anger, and it is their glory to overlook an offense.

*** Matthew 5:7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.**

D. In practical terms - a person has attacked you, accused you, irritated you... Do you grab a gas can or a fire extinguisher? What is the fire extinguisher? Patience / Mercy / Love.

