

## Life lessons from Michal

### *Various Scriptures*

*“But as the Ark of the Lord entered the City of David, Michal, the daughter of Saul, looked down from her window. When she saw King David leaping and dancing before and dancing before the Lord, she was filled with contempt for him.” -2 Samuel 6:16*

Life is filled with ups, downs, twists and unexpected turns. With that in mind, how should we as Christians respond when things in our lives don't go as planned or when people cause us harm? Charles Swindol once said, “Life is 10% what happens and 90% how you react to it.” Our study today, brings us to the life and example Michal, a woman who like so many of us struggled with handling life's unexpected events.

### **Did you know?**

- \*Michal personal name means “Who is like El?”, this is similar to Micah who's name means “Who is like Yah?”
- \*Michal is an abbreviated form of \_\_\_\_\_
- \*She was the younger daughter of King \_\_\_\_\_
- \*She had \_\_\_\_\_ brothers, \_\_\_\_\_ sisters and \_\_\_\_\_ husbands
- \*She was David's \_\_\_\_\_ wife
- \*Micah's story is told in 1 Samuel 14-2 Samuel 6; she is also mentioned in 1 Chronicles 15:29

### **What happened?**

\*Love at first sight: 1 Samuel 18:20-30; 1 Samuel 19:8-17

As we continue in our historical narrative, Saul has become very angry and \_\_\_\_\_ of David. He was also afraid because the Lord was with David but had departed from him. Not only that, but all of Israel and Judah \_\_\_\_\_ David because he went out and came in before the people.

One day the word came to Saul that his daughter Michal loved David. Saul being jealous and afraid wanted to use his daughter as a means to get David killed by the Philistines. In his attempt he commanded that David take the foreskin of 100 Philistine men, but brought back \_\_\_\_\_!

She loved David genuinely: Two times we are told in 1 Samuel 18 that Michal loved David. He was a hero, people admired him for his wisdom, and he was all hers.

### **Notice how she showed her love:**

- ✓ She warned David when her father was trying to \_\_\_\_\_ him(1 Samuel 19:11).
- ✓ She helped David by....
- \*Letting him down through a \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 12).
- \*Placing a decoy in their bed as a disguise(verse 13).
- \*Deceiving the \_\_\_\_\_ and her \_\_\_\_\_ (verses 14-17)

**Since love is an action, what is one way you are willing to help someones life that is in danger? If married, your spouse; if single, family a member or friend.**

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\*Love interrupted: 1 Samuel 19:18 - 2 Samuel 3:17; Psalm 59; 34

After David flees for his life, a span of \_\_\_\_\_ years goes by from 1 Samuel 19:18 through 2 Samuel 3:17. As we look at this time period, notice all the things that happen.

- ✓ David leaves Michal; while running from Saul he went from Gibeah to Ramah, to Nob to Gath to Adullam Psalm 34; from there he went to Ziph, to Horesh, to Maon (Abigail) to Gibeah to Gath to Ziklag
- ✓ David marries 2 other women; Abigail and Ahinoam 1 Samuel 25:43
- ✓ Saul gave Michal to Palti in marriage; 1 Samuel 25:44
- ✓ David uses Michal as a bargaining tool; 2 Samuel 3:13-16

**How do you think Michal felt during this time? Could you blame her for falling in love with someone else? What about David, was he right for this?**

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**As you reflect on the twists and turns in Michal's life, what kind of impact has your negative or unfair experiences had on your life?**

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\*Michal's response to David: 2 Samuel 6:15-23

✓ **Her heart: verses 15-16**

As David and his men were transporting the Ark back to Jerusalem he began to dance and shout for joy. While they were dancing, leaping, and shouting Michal was filled with contempt. Some translations say, she \_\_\_\_\_ him in her heart. In other words she looked upon him with scorn as if he was worthless or despicable.

✓ **Her words: verse 20**

After David had finished celebrating, they sacrificed \_\_\_\_\_ offerings and \_\_\_\_\_ offerings and he blessed the people and gave every Israelite man and woman in the crowd a loaf of bread, cake of dates and cake of raisins. When he came home, Michal met him outside saying, "How distinguished the king of Israel looked today, shamelessly exposing himself to the servant girls like any vulgar person might do!"

✓ **Her consequence: verse 23**

The bible tells us that Michal had \_\_\_\_\_ children to the day of her death.

**How do you respond when the people you love let you down? Do you think it is right to be overly critical or hold them in contempt?**

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Ephesians 4:29; Romans 3:23; Romans 12:3

**What can you do to show more grace and forgiveness to a brother or sister whom you believe has failed you?**

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Matthew 5:20; Matthew 6:15

**As you reflect on this study, what is the the greatest lesson learned that you are willing to share with someone else?**

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**“Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.”**

**-Colossians 4:6**