

== IN SEARCH OF A KING ==

Understanding 1 Samuel

Small group questions

1 Samuel 9-12 The rise of Saul

Leaders – if the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer – please contact the bishop!

1. Apart from the Lord Jesus and what he has done for you, has there been something significant in your life you can share with the group, for which you are forever thankful when you remember it? How has that incident impacted your life?

What is the passage about?

- Skim over the chapters and remind yourselves of the key points
- See the key verses as Saul is chosen and anointed as king – 9:20, 10:1, 10:24
- Anything unclear – any questions?

What does it teach us about God?

2. Despite the appointment of Saul as earthly King, God was still clearly in charge and calling the shots. What are the implications of this for understanding our world today... Or – does this fact raise some questions for you? What is God's ultimate plan for our world?
3. **12:24** *But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.*
Consider what great things he has done for you – a great inspiration to serving the Lord with our all heart. Do some *considering* as a group and recall how blessed we are!! See also Romans 12:1-2.
4. How can we ensure that we more *regularly consider* what great things he has done for us?

How does it point us to Jesus?

5. God acts through his authoritative word. Through these chapters, Samuel heard from God and obeyed his word. Saul would be required to lead by listening to and obeying God's word. What are the implications for us of having a God who speaks and whose word has authority?
6. We are engaged in a battle today. Read Ephesians 6:10-12. What is the nature of the battle we face?
7. We know who has already won the victory in this battle – see Colossians 2:13b-15. What difference does that make as we struggle?

Conclusion

8. Pray with this verse in mind: *But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.*
9. Share with the group any implications you see for yourself from this passage and study. What things might you need to Start; Stop; Continue... as a result of what you have learned through this week's sermon and discussion?