

# GRATITUDE

in the midst of tragedy  
(1 Samuel 31)

1. We must be **VIGILANT** against the forces of darkness. (1 Peter 5:8; Deuteronomy 4:9; Matthew 26:41; Acts 20:31; 1 Corinthians 10:12, 16:13; Revelation 3:2)
2. Lord, teach us to **NUMBER** our **DAYS**, that we may live with wisdom and proper perspective. (Psalm 90:12; 2 Corinthians 6:2; Hebrews 9:27; Romans 14:2)
3. If we are struck down, **OTHERS** will go down too. (Mark 14:27)
4. The enemy wants to make a **TROPHY** of me, but God wants to make me a **TESTIMONY** of His power! (John 10:10, 16:33; Matthew 27:50-51; Mark 10:45; 2 Corinthians 2:11; Ephesians 4:27, 6:11)
5. May we be willing to take a long time and go a far distance to honor our **DELIVERER!** (Psalm 18:2; John 5:23; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 5:8; Galatians 3:13| 1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 3:17; Psalm 86:12; Deuteronomy 6:5)



## Taking it further to help you **THRIVE...**

THRIVE Groups are where life and growth take place. We don't want to just say "See you next week" as we leave each Sunday - we want to connect!  
For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit [thrivekg.org/thrive-groups](http://thrivekg.org/thrive-groups).

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Samuel told Saul, "...tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The Lord will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines" (1 Samuel 28:19). Saul's immediate response was fear (which is understandable), yet we read nothing of Saul turning / turning back to the Lord, and the next day, he died. What can we learn from what it seems Saul did not do? In what ways might we want to live the next 24 hours of our life differently than perhaps we've previously considered?
3. By hanging Saul's body on the wall and his armor in their pagan temple, the Philistines sought to disgrace the LORD God by saying their 'god' was mightier. In what ways is society today trying to disgrace the name of our God? (Is there anything we are doing that disgraces Him?) How can we / should we respond to this? Is there something we can /should do? Not do?
4. Samuel had told Saul (1 Samuel 15:22) "To obey is better than sacrifice..." Because of his persistent disobedience, Saul became a trophy for the enemy. In what ways might you be wrestling with disobedience in your Christian walk? In what ways you are doing more 'sacrificing' than 'obeying'?
5. It was 32 years later, but the people of Jabesh Gilead made the 12 mile journey through the night to honor the life of Saul. What prompted their gratitude? Why would they go to such lengths to honor someone who had died? What lessons are in this for us?
6. Looking back on your walk with Jesus, who are some people that made a distinct impact in your journey? What did they do that made a difference in your life? (If they are still alive, consider reaching out to them to express your gratitude. If they have passed, make it a point to share with someone the testimony of how they impacted your life, and consider how you can do the same for someone else!)