

WHICH WAY

WILL WE GO FROM HERE?

(1 Samuel 12)

1. Surround yourself with and follow Godly examples of men and women who have lived with **INTEGRITY** and **FAITHFULNESS**. (*John 13:15, 17:4; Ephesians 5:1-2; 1 Timothy 4:12; 1 Corinthians 11:1, 15:33; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 13:7; Proverbs 13:20; Titus 2:7-8*)
2. Look back on my life and the life of those who have gone before me and learn a lesson from our **HISTORY**. (*Deuteronomy 32:7; Zechariah 1:4; 1 Corinthians 10:6,12; Proverbs 26:11-12; 2 Peter 2:22; Hebrews 3:8*)
3. Intentionally pursue **NOT FORGETTING** the Lord! (*Deuteronomy 6:12, 8:10-18; Psalm 78:7, 103:1-5; Proverbs 3:6, 4:5; John 15:1-5*)
4. Be careful about making choices based on our **DESIRES** and **CIRCUMSTANCES**. (*Proverbs 3:5-6; James 1:5; Philippians 4:6-7; Matthew 6:33; Psalm 25:12; 2 Peter 3:17*)
5. Rebellion against God moves God to be **AGAINST** us. (*1 Samuel 15:23; Proverbs 3:34; 1 Peter 5:5; James 4:6; Isaiah 63:10; Jeremiah 3:13; Numbers 14:9*)
6. God's correction should never drive us away from the **HOPE** and **MERCY** that abound in Him. (*Proverbs 3:11-12, 10:17, 12:1, 13:1; Hebrews 12:4-11; Job 5:17; Psalm 94:12-14; Revelation 3:19*)



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.]

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. At the end of chapter 11, the people had won a great battle and were offering praises to God and rejoicing...but everything was *not* OK. What do we learn from this chapter about what was not OK? Discuss the implications of this quote by Matthew Henry: "We must never think well of that which God in His law frowns upon, though in His providence He may seem to smile upon."
3. We have seen in the Israelites in 1 Samuel (and we remember from the book of Judges) that they often waited until they were in a super-difficult situation before they turned to God. Why do you think this was the case? Why is it often the case today? How should we approach God differently?
4. **Proverbs 26:11** says "*As a dog returns to his own vomit, so a fool repeats his folly.*" Why do people fail to learn from their past / from their mistakes?
5. **1 Samuel 15:23** says (AMP) "*Rebellion is as [serious as] the sin of divination (fortune-telling), and disobedience is as [serious as] false religion and idolatry.*" What does our rebellion against the Lord 'do to' God? What does it do to us?
6. God sent thunder and rain on the Israelites as a means of discipline, which caused them to fear for their life. But Samuel reminded them that they need not fear (**verse 20**)... "*only fear the Lord*" (**verse 24**). What is the difference? Talk about the meaning and application of **Hebrews 12:5-6** (ESV): "*My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.*"

