



Mega Transitions - **1 Samuel 8:1-22** *Be Careful for What you Ask For!*

Message to Conversation Guide

1 Sam 8:1-22

1 When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as Israel's leaders. 2 The name of his firstborn was Joel and the name of his second was Abijah, and they served at Beersheba. 3 But his sons did not follow his ways. They turned aside after dishonest gain and accepted bribes and perverted justice.

4 So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. 5 They said to him, "You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; **now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.**"

6 But when they said, "Give us a king to lead us," **this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the Lord.** 7 And the Lord told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. 8 As they have done from the day, I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. 9 Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will claim as his rights."

10 Samuel told all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. 11 He said, "**This is what the king who will reign over you will claim as his rights: He will take** your sons and make them serve with his chariots and horses, and they will run in front of his chariots. 12 Some he will assign to be commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and others to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and still others to make weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. 13 He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. 14 He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his attendants. 15 He will take a tenth of your grain and of your vintage and give it to his officials and attendants. 16 Your male and female servants and the best of your cattle and donkeys he will take for his own use. 17 He will take a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his slaves. 18 When that day comes, you will cry out for relief from the king you have chosen, but the Lord will not answer you in that day."

19 But the people refused to listen to Samuel. “No!” they said. “We want a king over us. 20 Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles.”

21 When Samuel heard all that the people said, he repeated it before the Lord. 22 The Lord answered, “Listen to them and give them a king.”

Then Samuel said to the Israelites, “Everyone go back to your own town.” NIV, 2011

Discuss how Trust is the Most Important Ingredient in Leadership. How had Samuel’s sons forfeited their leadership before Israel? (1 Samuel 8:1-5)

1 Peter 5:1-4

5 To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ’s sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: 2 Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; **not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve;** 3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. 4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. NIV

2 Cor 2:17

17 Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, as those sent from God. NIV

Ex 28:33-34

33 Make pomegranates of blue, purple and scarlet yarn around the hem of the robe, with gold bells between them. 34 The gold bells and the pomegranates are to alternate around the hem of the robe. NIV

It was not out of God’s plan for Israel to have a King. It was the wrong time, wrong tribe, wrong motive.

Gen 17:6

6 I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, **and kings will come from you.**

Gen 17:16

16 I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; **kings of peoples will come from her.**” (See **Genesis 49:10 & Num. 24:17**)

Deut 17:14-20

14 When you enter the land the Lord your God is giving you and have taken possession of it and settled in it, and you say, “Let us set a king over us like all the nations around us,” **15 be sure to appoint over you a king the Lord your God chooses.** He must be from among your fellow Israelites. Do not place a foreigner over you, one who is not an Israelite. NIV (see also **Deut. 17:16-20**)

Samuel was troubled by what the Israelites said to him, so he took it to the Lord. 2 Samuel 8:6

Remember the 3 Keys to asking for stuff from God: the right thing, the right time, an open ear and the right motive. 2 Samuel 8:5, James 4:3

