

**Wednesday Night, Survey Service: Week 23**

**1 Samuel 2:22 – 15, Luke 19 – 21:24**

**1st Samuel 2: Eli’s sons are worthless**

**Key Point:**

Humility and obedience are the key to God’s blessing but just verbally complaining about sin yet doing nothing to stop sin in your life will only lead to a loss of blessing.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 2:12 (NLT)**

Now the sons of Eli were scoundrels who had no respect for the Lord

**1st Samuel 3: God calls Sam**

**Key Point:**

Humility allows us to hear from God but a lack of humility leads only to consequence.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 3:10 (NLT)**

And the Lord came and called as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel replied, “Speak, your servant is listening.”

**1st Samuel 4: The ark is captured**

**Key Point:**

We dare not ever reduce God to a good luck charm or think that God will overlook deliberate evil and corruption in our lives – our sins will find us out.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 4:11 (NLT)**

The Ark of God was captured, and Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, were killed.

**1st Samuel 5: Philistine plague**

**Key Point:**

While God will NOT be reduced to a good luck charm, neither will He allow His name to be inferior to a false god.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 5:12 (NLT)**

Those who didn’t die were afflicted with tumors; and the cry from the town rose to heaven.

**1st Samuel 6: Returning the ark**

**Key Point:**

God is no respecter of persons – His standards are the same, He is not moved by superstitious ritual and He expects His people to know what He expects of them and to be obedient.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 6:10 (NLT)**

So these instructions were carried out. Two cows were hitched to the cart, and their newborn calves were shut up in a pen.

**1st Samuel 7: Revival under Sam**

**Key Point:**

Repentance is the key to relationship with God, not superstition or half hearted “devotion.” We must be willing to rid ourselves of whatever defiles us if we want the full blessing of God.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 7:4 (NLT)**

So the Israelites got rid of their images of Baal and Ashtoreth and worshiped only the Lord.

**1st Samuel 8: Give us a king**

**Key Point:**

We are ambassadors in a strange land so we must resist the temptation to want to be like everyone else in the world.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 8:7 (NLT)**

“Do everything they say to you,” the Lord replied, “for they are rejecting me, not you. They don’t want me to be their king any longer.

**1st Samuel 9: Sam finds Saul**

**Key Point:**

God does not look on outside appearance and what may start out as good looking may fall into error because of pride.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 9:17 (NLT)**

When Samuel saw Saul, the Lord said, “That’s the man I told you about! He will rule my people.”

**1st Samuel 10: Saul is chosen**

**Key Point:**

We must choose to walk in the advantages and opportunities God gives us because if we choose our own self-interests or pride we are destined to fall.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 10:21 (NLT)**

Then he brought each family of the tribe of Benjamin before the Lord, and the family of the Matrites was chosen. And finally Saul son of Kish was chosen from among them. But when they looked for him, he had disappeared!

**1st Samuel 11: Saul saves Jabesh**

**Key Point:**

Trying to make a deal with the world will only blind you. Our greatest loyalty must always be to our God.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 11:15 (NLT)**

So they all went to Gilgal, and in a solemn ceremony before the Lord they made Saul king. Then they offered peace offerings to the Lord, and Saul and all the Israelites were filled with joy.

**1st Samuel 12: Sam presents their king**

**Key Point:**

The witness of God’s word and God’s servants should show us clearly that the warnings in the Bible should be taken very seriously.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 12:13 (NLT)**

All right, here is the king you have chosen. You asked for him, and the Lord has granted your request.

**1st Samuel 13: Saul offers sacrifice**

**Key Point:**

Pride comes before a fall and when we decide to do things our way instead of God’s way there are always consequences.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 13:13 (NLT)**

“How foolish!” Samuel exclaimed. “You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you. Had you kept it, the Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel forever.

**1st Samuel 14: Jon – By many or by few**

**Key Point:**

We should take great care not to make foolish promises or commitments to God, but if we do humility and repentance rather than rigid legalism is the solution.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 14:6 (NLT)**

“Let’s go across to the outpost of those pagans,” Jonathan said to his armor bearer. “Perhaps the Lord will help us, for nothing can hinder the Lord. He can win a battle whether he has many warriors or only a few!”

**1st Samuel 15: Saul won’t kill them all**

**Key Point:**

God calls us to complete, radical obedience but when we fail He calls us to radical, real humility and repentance. Whenever we seek our own self-advancement, especially when we try to cover over our sins, we fail to step into what God would have for us.

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**Key Verse: 1st Samuel 15:22 (NLT)**

But Samuel replied, “What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.

**Luke 19: Rocks Cry Out**

**Key Point:**

God looks at the heart and even an evil person who truly desires to see Jesus will be received by Him and in that relationship a hard heart can be changed.

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**Key Verse: Luke 19:40 (NLT)**

He replied, “If they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into cheers!”

**Luke 20: God Of The Living**

**Key Point:**

If admitting our misunderstanding or fault makes us look bad, we will be tempted to hide from the truth. The right thing to do is humble oneself.

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**Key Verse: Luke 20:38 (NLT)**

So he is the God of the living, not the dead, for they are all alive to him.

**Luke 21: Sudden End**

**Key Point:**

We can all give because if we give from the heart the poorest can be every bit as blessed as the richest - God sees the heart and the generosity of the heart pleases Him.

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**Key Verse: Luke 21:34 (NLT)**

“Watch out! Don’t let your hearts be dulled by carousing and drunkenness, and by the worries of this life. Don’t let that day catch you unaware