## Reflecting on 1 Samuel 27-2 Samuel 1 (Part 2) March 15, 2020

Introduction: In this message, we trace Saul's final days as king of Israel. Saul's life functions as a cautionary tale. In other words, by analyzing Saul's life, we find out what not to do. Here are two truths we can draw from this text and what it says about Saul's heart:

- 1. A heart that is away from God seeks to maintain the appearance of spiritual uprightness, while breaking God's law privately.
- 2. A heart that is away from God wants the direction of God without submitting to God.

The Big Idea we identified from Saul's life is this: *The way of transgressors is hard.* 

## **Questions to Discuss:**

1. Summarize the sermon in a few sentences below. Share what you write with the group.

2. What part of the message seems most challenging to you? What makes it so?

3. Why are Christians so concerned with maintaining appearances of godliness, even at times when neglecting their relationship with God?

4. This tendency to hide/ignore our private sins can be detrimental to our spiritual lives. Read Proverbs 28:13. This verse contains a warning and a promise. Discuss.

5. Have you experienced the direction of God in your life? Share a specific incident where you saw God's hand leading to make a specific decision or go a particular direction.

6. How does God lead Christians? What sources of direction does He use to aid them in following his path for their lives? (See Psalm

119:105, Proverbs 11:14, and John 16:25-26 for a few suggestions.)

7. What does God do when we resist His plan for our lives? (see Hebrew 12:4-11) How and why does God discipline/chasten us?