

SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 8:1-5

1 When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as Israel's leaders.[a] 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[b] us, such as all the other nations have."

1 Samuel 8:6-9

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."

1 Samuel 8:19-20

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."

1 Samuel 13:11-13

11 "What have you done?" asked Samuel.

Saul replied, "When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Mikmash, 12 I thought, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the Lord's favor.' So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering."

13 "You have done a foolish thing," Samuel said. "You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time.

1 Samuel 15:10-12

10 Then the word of the Lord came to Samuel: 11 “I regret that I have made Saul king, because he has turned away from me and has not carried out my instructions.” Samuel was angry, and he cried out to the Lord all that night.

12 Early in the morning Samuel got up and went to meet Saul, but he was told, “Saul has gone to Carmel. There he has set up a monument in his own honor and has turned and gone on down to Gilgal.”

- 1. People will never be able to fill the void in your life that God was meant to fill.**
- 2. When we let fear be the voice of reason in our lives, it leads us to believe that we are the rescuer, not Jesus.**
- 3. Pride leads me to believe that the only king of my life is me.**

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read the passage of Scripture together as a group.

Does your family have any traditions as you celebrate the season of Advent?

How do we know that Israel asked for a king? What was God’s response to this request?

Church, what are the things in your life that you’ve looked to the world and have wanted for yourself.

The question remains, will we trust God to rule and reign in our hearts and in our minds, or will we turn to some other form of King and live for that Kingdom?

In the midst of fear, who are you turning to?

What King are you looking to, to give you hope, security, and peace?