

September 16th 2018: Breaking Bad

Opening:

- What comes to mind when you think of humility?
- What do you think the hardest part about being humble is?

Discussion:

- Read 1 Samuel 15:7-9. God gives Saul a very specific instruction, to destroy everyone, and Saul kept their king, alive; and kept all that was good. Why do you think it's so easy to justify changes to Gods plan or calling or specific instruction? Trust? Obedience? Selfishness?
- Read 1 Samuel 15: 10-11. We now see that God is regretful (sad), and Samuel is angry. How do you respond when you mess up? When you're wrong?
- I think we can agree that the opposite of being humble is being prideful. How does pride affect us?
- We can see an obvious strain in Samuel and Saul's relationship. It's easy to see from the outside Samuel was there to
 guide Saul and deliver God's messages, but Saul wanted to do his own thing. Do you have relationships in your own life
 you need to acknowledge as 'good' because you're learning a lot? A parent? A mentor/friend?
- How do you think Saul might have responded if he were humble in this story?
- Discuss a time you interacted with someone like Saul; talking out of both sides of their mouth and believing their own stories. How did you handle it? How could you have handled it better?
- Why is it better to obey than to sacrifice? Read 1 Samuel 15:20,22
- What is the relationship between submitting to earthly authority and heavenly authority.
- Why do you think God holds obedience to such high standards?

Application:

- This week come up with one or two areas or 'things' in your life you need to recognize as only existing because God made it so. Pray to have your eyes opened and the blindness from pride be removed.
- Ask God to reveal areas in your life you are disobedient in.