

LOOKING FOR A LEADER

A teaching series on 1 & 2 Samuel

Week Two
Giving Up Control
Remy Diederich

Outline & Study Questions

Outline

1. God shows up in our weakness when we lean on him.
2. God honors those who honor him.
3. We want assurances and guarantees to maintain our control.
4. The essence of faith is giving up control and trusting God.
5. Sometimes faith requires us to do nothing and watch God work.

Going Deeper: Use the following questions for personal reflection and/or to discuss with family, friends, and/or small group.

1. Read 1 Samuel 2:12-36 about the sins of Eli and his sons. What did these men do that was so offensive to God? Why was Eli held responsible for his sons' behavior?
2. Verse 30 says that when we honor God, he will honor us. What does that mean to you? How can you apply that to your life?
3. Read 1 Samuel, chapter 8:1-9. Why did the people want a king? How does that compare to our lives? To whom or what do we turn to solve our problems instead of God?
4. Read 1 Samuel, chapter 8:10-22. What was the cost to the people for turning to a king? How does that compare to the cost for turning to something/ someone other than God? In other words, what does the "world" take from us when we look to it instead of God?
5. God granted the request for a king even though he felt that they had rejected him as their king. Why would God do that? Can you think of how God might do that in someone's life today?
6. Read 1 Samuel 14:47,48. This makes Saul sound like a great leader. What two events were his undoing and why? See 1 Samuel 13:8-14 and 1 Samuel 15:1-9. Why did this behavior cost him his kingship? Was there a common theme?
7. Old Testament stories can leave people feeling condemned. How can an understanding of grace help us to learn from these stories without feeling condemned?