

The Meeting at Mizpah

1 Samuel 10:17-25

What God Does

- Gathering them according to their special name

What God Says

- Addressing them using His special name

Why God Said It at Mizpah

- Reminding them of His past faithfulness

What God Says About the People

- By this choice they are rejecting Him

How God Gives Them What They Want

- Allowing them to experience consequences

How God closes the Meeting

- Limiting the damage from their foolish choices

Application for the Christian

- God is tender, even when we reject Him
- God protects, despite our foolish choices
- God delivers us from calamities or distresses

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued My faithfulness to you." (Jeremiah 31:3b)

For Life Group Discussion

1 Samuel 10:17-25

1. What is one place, or one word, or one name that is special to you? What emotions come to the surface when you see, hear, or think of them? How does that relate to this passage?
2. Where are you tempted to say, "set a king over us," looking to human solutions (money, strategies, leaders) for security instead of God's rule? Name one concrete "king" you're prone to trust this week
3. God names Himself personally (YHWH), and calls His people by name. How does remembering God's covenant love change the way you approach Him after failure, doubt, or drift?
4. What's your personal "Ebenezer," your stone of remembrance? Do you look to your baptism? Or, in addition, to another instance of past deliverance? How does it help when facing fear or indecision?
5. In what area are you pushing ahead of God's timing? What would waiting in faith look like this week?
6. Of the 3 takeaways - God's tenderness toward straying people, His gracious protection amid our foolishness, and His steady deliverance - which do you need to trust right now, and what steps of repentance/obedience will you take before next Sunday?

Homework: Read and study 1st Samuel chapters 13 and 16 in preparation for next week's message (We'll cover one or the other!)