



# ORIGINS

Small Group

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS

“Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” James 1:22 NIV

### SUMMARY

As we continue to unpack the story of the Bible in our *Origins* teaching series, Pastor Frank taught a message entitled “A Nation in Transition”. In this message, we looked at a period when Israel was transitioning from judges to kings. As we looked at the opening chapters of I Samuel, we saw God raise up a man named Samuel who would bring Godly leadership to Israel.

#### 1. God uses imperfect people!

- We’ve looked at the lives of great people - Abraham, Moses, Joshua, and now Samuel - and the fact is that none of them were perfect, but God used them anyway. What does this say about the nature of God?
- We often feel this: “God couldn’t use me because of my flaws”. How has this lie kept you from attempting great things for God?
- How can the fact that God uses imperfect people give you more grace with those in leadership positions?

#### 2. What obstacles do you face today?

- Last week we looked at Naomi’s obstacle of losing her husband and sons, and this week we looked at Hannah’s obstacle of barrenness. What obstacle(s) are you currently facing?
- God answered Hannah’s faith-filled prayer, and it blessed the nation of Israel for decades to come. How might you resolve to pray those big, faith-filled prayers in the face of your obstacle(s)?

#### 3. Take heart, no matter how dark it looks, God is at work behind the scenes of men’s mess.

- Even though the days during the book of Judges were dark and seemingly hopeless, God was still at work behind the scenes. In what ways are you tempted to believe that God is distant, disengaged, or disinterested in the challenges you are facing?
- Has there been a situation where it didn’t feel like it at the moment, but now in hindsight, you can see that God was at work behind the scenes? If so, what happened?

### APPLICATION

### PRAYER

Pray that God would move on our behalf in the obstacles we are facing.

