

PEFC Weekly Family & Small Group Study Guide

June 19, 2022

Paynesville Evangelical Free Church
God Uses Ordinary People to Build His Kingdom
God Chooses a Hero
I Samuel 9:1-12:25



Big Idea

Be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart!

1. Do not let physical/mental ability limit your willingness to be obedient to God.
2. God's providential control in your life empowers you with the ability to serve him.
3. Serve the Lord faithfully with all your heart remembering what he has done for you.

Introduction

Introduce yourself and share something with the group that others may not know about you.

Bible Study Questions

Have someone summarize what has happened in I Samuel 1-8 (who are the main characters, what is significant about them, what is the setting, spiritual climate in Israel etc....).

Have everyone skim through I Samuel 9-12. It should take 6-8 minutes.

Saul is introduced to us in this section. How is he portrayed? (Positive, negative, strong, weak, etc.). Why do you think God chose Saul?

What might be some of Saul's strengths? Some weaknesses? How do we see God working through these? Relate how God works through some of our strengths and weaknesses.

Pastor Brad said that obedience is a major theme throughout this book. Where do you see obedience demonstrated here? Reflecting on these examples, what are areas of your life that need obedience to the Lord?

Summarize Samuel's warning against disobedience in chapter 12. Why does Samuel relate the history of Israel? How is reflecting on our past sometimes helpful in living obediently to the Lord?

Where in these chapters do we see God's providential control in the life of Samuel & Saul? Who does the author portray as the determining factor behind the victories? (Note 10:1, 6, 9, 11:6-7,13, 12:16,22). What does this tell us about God's active role in our lives? How should it motivate us to live obediently?

What expression of God's grace do we see revealed in 12:19-25? How can we be encouraged by Samuel's words to the people?

How do we see the gospel reflected in these chapters? (Note examples of grace, faith, obedience, God's salvation, etc.).

Next Steps

Make a list of some of your strengths and weaknesses. Offer them to the Lord and reflect on how he might use you in his kingdom by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reflect on one area of your life that Jesus is calling you to be obedient to him. Confess an area you have failed in the past and commit to “*serving the Lord with all your heart*” (12:20).

Think about how you would use this passage to share the gospel with someone.

Prayer

Thank God for his grace and faithfulness to his promises. Share life needs within your group and pray for one another. Remember that prayer requests need to remain confidential and not be repeated outside your group without permission.