

**Open:**

- Chapter 8 = The older generation mourned the loss of God’s power; but never passed on a hunger for God’s presence to the next generation.
  - Samuel had a personal relationship with God, but failed to teach the next generation, the way his mother had taught him, the importance of knowing God personally. **I Sam 8:3**
  - We find this because of the older generation failing to pass down the importance of a relationship and a reliance on God that the current generation not only forsook the principles of God, they began to seek the politics of man. **I Sam. 8:6-9**
  - Despite a very clear warning from God and God’s man the people refused to obey, because of their desire to be like every other nation. **I Sam 8:5, 10-22**
- Chapter 9 = God led Saul to Samuel set him up as a military leader, over His people.
  - God’s description of Saul. **I Sam 9:1-2**
  - Saul’s character and humility revealed. **I Sam. 9:3-10**
  - God reveals Saul’s soon arrival to Samuel and his being anointed as captain. **I Sam. 9:15-22**
- Chapter 10 = Saul is anointed over the people as a captain, but the younger generation was still not satisfied with the political progress.
  - Samuel reveals to Saul the new position, the new power, and a new passion. **I Sam. 10:1-9**
    - Position = To be the captain. **vs. 1**
    - Power = The Spirit of God would be with him. **vs. 6**
    - Passion = To follow God and do what God wanted. **vs. 8**
  - When Samuel reveals Saul to the people, the people misunderstand Saul’s leadership roll and accept him as a king [political] even though he was only anointed as a captain [military]. **I Sam. 10:17-27**
    - Notice how those who rejected God, and Samuel’s message to return to God, also rejected the authority given to Saul. They took from the authority of God and gave to Saul what should have only been God’s. Saul said nothing. **I Sam. 10:24, 27**
- Chapter 11 = Saul is lifted up in pride because position and success in the eyes of the people.
  - Saul is angered by the people’s lack of faith in God’s ability to deliver them from the enemy and sends a clear message to all of Israel. **I Sam. 11:1-7**
  - God brings a great victory by the hand of Saul. **I Sam. 11:8-11**
  - Saul in a moment of pride, because of victory in battle, takes from the people the authority and power that God had not given him. **I Sam. 11:12-15**
- Chapter 12 = A warning to Israel and to Saul to not abandon their service to God.
  - Samuel reminded the people who it is that prospered their fathers. **I Sam 12:6**
  - Samuel reminded the people that they got what they thought they wanted, even though it was contrary to God’s plan for them. **I Sam. 12:13**
  - Samuel rehearses before the people the importance of making the right choice and remaining obedient to God. **I Sam. 12:14-25**

## **I. Do not allow personal failures to keep you from passing on to the next generation a hunger for the power of God.** (I Samuel 8)

- The people got used to seeing blessings as a result of Samuel's relationship with God, but they failed to develop a personal relationship with God. **I Sam. 7:8-9** *"And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Cease not to cry unto the LORD our God for us, that he will save us out of the hand of the Philistines. [9] And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a burnt offering wholly unto the LORD: and Samuel cried unto the LORD for Israel; and the LORD heard him."*
- A. Samuel's generation saw a forsaking of God and hungered to see God's power return; but they failed to pass on that desire by teaching the next generation the importance of a personal walk with God. **I Sam. 8:3** *"And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment."*
- B. The previous generation failed to recognize that it was God who would bring prosperity, not a political system. **I Sam. 8:4-5** *"Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, [5] And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations."*

## **II. Don't turn from a trust in God to a trust in man.** (I Sam. 9-10)

- A. Israel lost focus on their source of power and became focused and what they thought was the strength of nations around them. **Jer. 17:5-6** *"Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD. [6] For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited."*
- B. Israel's lack of faith in God caused them to seek the face of man for security. **I Sam. 10:24** *"And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the LORD hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king."*

## **III. Don't allow who you are and what God has allowed you to become to cause you to become proud and take from people the authority and glory that belongs to God.** (I Sam 11-12)

- **I Sam. 10:24, 27** *"And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the LORD hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king. [27] But the children of Belial said, How shall this man save us? And they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace."*
- A. Saul became proud in his accomplishments, and failed to direct the people's attention to the One who could bring prosperity. **I Sam. 11:15** *"And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the LORD; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly."*
- B. Do not fail to realize that it has always been God Who has brought prosperity and victory to His children. **I Sam. 12:6** *"And Samuel said unto the people, It is the LORD that advanced Moses and Aaron, and that brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt"*

### **Close:**

- Do not live a spiritual life for the next generation, teach them how to have a personal relationship with God.
- Do not abandon Bible principles for a political campaign.
- Do not be lifted up in pride when you recognize that God is using you. Remain humble and point the people who are following you to the One you are following.

### **I Sam. 12:24**

*"Only fear the LORD, and serve him in truth with all your heart:  
for consider how great things he hath done for you."*