

Journey to the Cross

Lesson 6:

Samuel Ushers in Kingship
1 Samuel 8 and 12

2015 - 2016



MEMORIAL DRIVE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**[https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=SsCPWNwOJiQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SsCPWNwOJiQ)**

Whom Shall I Fear by Chris Tomlin





Memory Verse

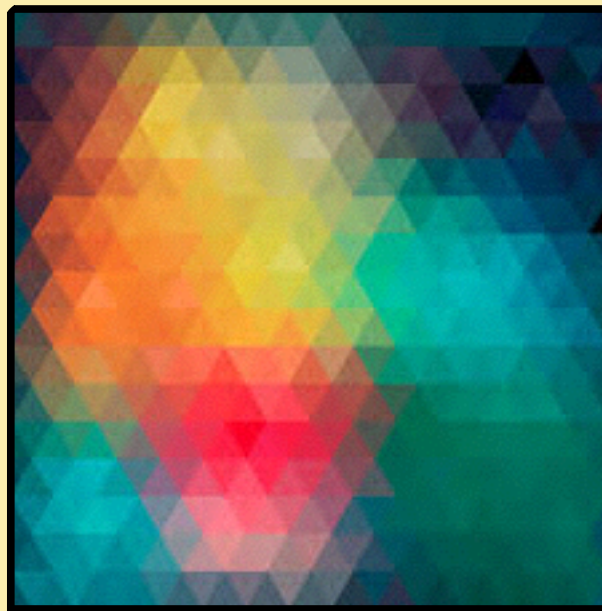
Your word
is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.

Psalms 119:105



Fear!

Today



Transitions



Lesson Learned

FEAR



Kingly Dilemma



Knowing God



Transitions

***What do these men
have in common?***



Ronald Reagan
Sports Announcer
Actor
Politician



Samuel
Judge
Prophet



Transitions



This week we see that Samuel must redefine his role. He was a judge but now transitions into the role of a prophet.

He goes from being the ruler into being the moral compass.

Even with the change in roles, Samuel is still:

Man of God

Faithful

Prayerful

Obedient



Transitions

4 Periods in Israel's History
Transitional speeches and prayers separate the periods.

Mosaic Period



Conquest Period



Judges Period



Monarchy Period





Transitions

**We live in
transitional times.**



Life is changing.

“Change is the only constant.”

unknown author

Is this a time of fear or a time of peace?



Kingly Dilemma

Surface View



Israel's Assessment of the Situation

- 1. The Israelites thought Samuel's sons were corrupt and unfit to serve as judges.**
- 2. They thought the tribes were too independent and unorganized. A king would unite them.**
- 3. They wanted to be like their neighbors who were governed by kings.**

They wanted a KING!



**Kingly
Dilemma**

**Deeper
View**



**Israel's demand for a king was
sinful in its motive!**

- They were tired of being who they were and dissatisfied with God!
- They were tired of the boundaries God gave them.
- They wanted respect and acceptance from their neighbors which they valued more than God.

They needed OBEDIENCE!



**Kingly
Dilemma**

**Deeper
View**



**Israel's demand for a king was
selfish in its timing!**

- **God was not opposed to a king. In fact, one was coming in the future, and he is the King of Kings. But Israel demanded a king now.**
- **Impatience means we are not enjoying God's present blessings. We must live in the grace of the moment but still look to the future with hope.**

They needed PATIENCE!



**Kingly
Dilemma**

**Deeper
View**



**Israel's demand for a king was
cowardly in its spirit!**

- They worshipped idols instead of God.
- Israel was afraid and needed to “be strong and courageous” (Joshua 1:9).
- They wanted a tangible leader who would be seen defending their borders.
- When the system failed, they could blame the system and not themselves.

They needed FAITH!



**Kingly
Dilemma**

**Deeper
View**



How do we handle FEAR?

**We must discern
God's wisdom and God's will
in identifying and overcoming our fear.**

**“Do not be afraid” and “Do not fear” are written
98 times in the NIV and 125 times in the NRSV
translations of the Bible.**



**Kingly
Dilemma**

**Deeper
View**



How do we handle FEAR? *continued*

Pray for help.

1 Samuel 8:6-7

Samuel prayed to the Lord and the Lord said to Samuel...

Search Scripture.

2 Timothy 3:16

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.

Ask a Christian friend.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.



**Kingly
Dilemma**

**Deeper
View**



How do we handle FEAR? *continued*

**Then we must step out despite the fear,
acknowledging and trusting that God is with us.**

When I was afraid, I put my trust in you. Psalm 56:3

***So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed,
for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.***

Isaiah 41:10



**Kingly
Dilemma**

**Deeper
View**



Israel's demand for a king was:

#1

... more than just a change in leaders.

It was a desire for change in who they were.

**It was a rejection of being ruled by God
through God's chosen judges.**



**Kingly
Dilemma**

**Deeper
View**



Israel's demand for a king was:

#2

**... a profound statement of dissatisfaction
in who they were as a people.**

**They wanted to be like their neighbors
whom they lived beside for 200 years.**



**Kingly
Dilemma**

**Deeper
View**



Israel's demand for a king was:

#3

**... seeking conformity and security with
neighbors instead of with God.**



**Kingly
Dilemma**

**Deeper
View**



Israel's demand for a king was:

#4

... an act of rebellion!



Knowing God

The Top 4

What do we know
about God from
these chapters?

#1

God is a living, personal God.
God wants a relationship with us.



Knowing God

The Top 4

#2

**God is generous in grace and mercy
despite the bad choices people make.**

**Grace is getting what we don't deserve.
Mercy is not getting what we deserve.**



Knowing God

The Top 4

#3

God is faithful and will not abandon us.

**God eventually gave them/us the king
we needed. Jesus is King of Kings!**



Knowing God

The Top 4

#4

**God can transform something
harmful into something good and
useful for God's purposes.**



The Top 4

#1

**God allows us to live with
the consequences of our
actions and decisions.**



The Top 4

#2

**Since we were created to be
counter-cultural, we should
stop looking to society to
give us meaning.**



The Top 4

#3

**Like Samuel (1 Samuel 12:23), we
too should pray for the people and
teach/show others how to live
God-centered lives.**



The Top 4

#4

**We need to be
obedient, patient, and faithful.**

**We shouldn't let fear move us
away from God.**

The Avowal

by Denise Levertov (1923-1997)

**As swimmers dare
to lie face to the sky
and water bears them,
as hawks rest upon air
and air sustains them,
so would I learn to attain
free fall, and float
into Creator Spirit's deep embrace,
knowing no effort earns
that all-surrounding grace.**





Applying the Lesson to Your Life

**Think of a time in your life when
God helped you overcome fear.
How did it feel?**

**What is a current situation
where you want God to help you
overcome fear?**