**WEEK 3 | 1 SAMUEL 11-15 | OBEDIENCE**

HOMEWORK: Read chapters 11-15 to get the context of the story then answer the questions.

* If you like military intrigue, you’ll like the lesson this week.
* If you’ve ever taken matters into your own hands and ignored God’s word, you’ll relate to this week’s lesson.
* If you’ve ever made a huge mess out of things, you’ll understand how even the Bible guys messed up.

When the city of Jabesh Gilead was captured in chapter 11, why do you think the Israelites suggested making a treaty with them?

* Why ask for 7 days to send out messengers?
* Why do you think Nahash agreed to that request?

In Chapter 11, who did the messengers go to for help?

Saul shows his ability and courage as the new king by doing what next?

* What was the people’s response to Saul’s bravery and success in this mission?

In chapter 12 Samuel addresses the Israelites as he begins to give authority over to King Saul. In the first part of his address, verses 1-5, what is Samuel establishing with the Israelites?

If you were to address your circle of friends today, would you say that you have as much integrity as Samuel did?

* Do you think that is something worth striving for? Why or why not?
* Read I Peter 1:13-16 and II Peter 3:11-12 to see what the New Testament says on this subject.

Samuel goes on to remind the people why it was so wrong for them to insist on a king. Why was his demand for a king referred to as “evil” in verse 17 and 19?

What did Samuel do in verse 18 to ensure that the people understood the brevity of this situation?

In Chapter 12:20 Samuel assures them that if they turn away from evil and serve the Lord, the Lord will not reject them.

* + What reason does he give for that in verse 22?
* How do these two scriptures relate to I Samuel 12:20?
	+ II Corinthians. 7:10
	+ Revelation. 2:4-5

Saul was a king not a priest.

* In chapter 13 what did Saul do that was not within his authority as King?
* Why do you think he did this, he obviously knew it was wrong?
* How does Saul show his guilt when Samuel arrives?

What does Saul do in response to Samuels questioning in Chapter 13:11-12?

* Read Acts 5:1-11 and compare this to this passage in I Samuel.

Just because we have been given a position of authority does not mean that we cannot misuse that authority.

* How many unwise decisions of Saul’s can you find in Chapter 14 that show his lack of wisdom?

In chapter 15 Samuel specifically gives Saul a message from God regarding how he is going to attack the Amalekites.

* What was that message?
* How did Saul respond to this message?
* When confronted by Samuel about his misdeeds what does Saul do?

Chapter 15 gives us a look into the kingship of Saul.

* According to verses 13 and following, do you think that Saul repented for his sin and do you think he was forgiven? Support your answer from the scripture.

**Come this week prepared to discuss in your group:**

* Do we give God, our heavenly king, total authority over our lives?
* How easy is it to be self-deceived?