

## SERMON-BASED STUDY: SAMUEL REMEMBERS

**1 Samuel 7:5-14, ESV** – <sup>5</sup> Then Samuel said, “Gather all Israel at Mizpah, and I will pray to the LORD for you.” <sup>6</sup> So they gathered at Mizpah and drew water and poured it out before the LORD and fasted on that day and said there, “We have sinned against the LORD.” And Samuel judged the people of Israel at Mizpah. <sup>7</sup> Now when the Philistines heard that the people of Israel had gathered at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the people of Israel heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines. <sup>8</sup> And the people of Israel said to Samuel, “Do not cease to cry out to the LORD our God for us, that he may save us from the hand of the Philistines.” <sup>9</sup> So Samuel took a nursing lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the LORD. And Samuel cried out to the LORD for Israel, and the LORD answered him. <sup>10</sup> As Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to attack Israel. But the LORD thundered with a mighty sound that day against the Philistines and threw them into confusion, and they were defeated before Israel. <sup>11</sup> And the men of Israel went out from Mizpah and pursued the Philistines and struck them, as far as below Beth-car.

<sup>12</sup> Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, “Till now the LORD has helped us.” <sup>13</sup> So the Philistines were subdued and did not again enter the territory of Israel. And the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. <sup>14</sup> The cities that the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron to Gath, and Israel delivered their territory from the hand of the Philistines. There was peace also between Israel and the Amorites.

### Notes:

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- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

### QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

### ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we read about how Israel returned to God. Discuss what the Israelites did according to this passage. What lessons can we learn from their example?

2 How does God's rescue often go way beyond mercy only and all the way into grace?

3 Samuel sets up a stone as a reminder of what God did for them. What are some things that you do to remember what God has done for you?

## DIGGING DEEPER

**A** *Ephesians 2:8-9, ESV* – <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

*Mark 1:14-17, ESV* – <sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." <sup>16</sup> Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men."

4 What did Jesus mean when He said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel"?

5 What is the gospel? How would you explain it to someone not familiar with the Bible?

6 The gospel starts with repentance. Why does repentance have to be the initial step to a person's salvation?

**B** *Titus 2:11-14, ESV* – <sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup> training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup> waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

*1 Thessalonians 4:1-3a, ESV* – Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. <sup>2</sup> For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. <sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification.

7 Looking at 1 Thessalonians 4:3, we see that the will of God is your sanctification. What is sanctification? Why is this important to God?

8 How does one renounce ungodliness and worldly passions? How do we train in godliness?

9 What role does repentance have in sanctification?

## TAKING IT HOME

Last week, we learned about restoration. This week, we learned about remembrance. Remembrance is key to staying on the path God has for us. How are you doing with remembering God's work in your life? What changes can you make to be better at remembering His gracious acts to you. Share with your group or accountability partner what God is speaking to you today. Pray for one another as you remember God's work of salvation and sanctification in your life.

## PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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## FOR FURTHER STUDY

Genesis 28:18, 31:45, 35:14

Judges 10:10

Psalms 99:6

Nehemiah 9:1

Ephesians 1:13-14

Philippians 1:6, 2:12-13

2 Peter 1:2-4