

1 Samuel 11-12 "God's 'Permissive Will!'"

- 1) But just as Nahash would prove to be wrong, in God's grace, there's always a **second chance!**
Proverbs 21:31
- 2) God will always **equip** you to do what He leads you to do!
- 3) Love is the **key**. If you pray for one thing, ask the Lord to make you a man or woman of love.
1 Samuel 8:3, 7
- 4) God always **works together** with those who love him to do His work and bring about His will!
Exodus 20:2
- 5) The key to truly trusting the Lord today is **remembering** His faithfulness in the past!.
- 6) Jesus desired from them—and from each of us—a daily recognition and renewal of our **love** and **passion** for Him...
Revelation 2:3-5a
- 7) David is the **example** for each of us today!
...can you put yourself in this Psalm?
Psalm 63:1-8 NLT
- 8) These chapters are a warning to us! Always seek God's **perfect** will for your life—not His **permissive** will.
- 9) Just like Samuel says, the only answer to our ever-present "old nature" is to **focus** on Jesus and **serve** the Lord with all your heart!
Leviticus 26:3-4, 14-16; Judges 4:2; 13:1; 3:12; 10:15-16; 1 John 1:9; Hosea 13:9-11
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Food for Thought for the week of June 19, 2022

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

“Happy Father’s Day!”

Since Life Groups are on break, feel free to use the following study questions with your personal devotions!

1) In 1 Samuel 11 Saul showed **concern** for his people—even those in the outer-reaches of the kingdom—the ones who had not, in the past, shown loyalty to the other tribes... he also demonstrated **mercy** for the troublemakers of chapter 10 when some of his men wanted to put them to death.

What do you think changed Saul from a caring, merciful man into the hateful, murderer we will see in chapter 19?

1 Samuel 19:1-2

¹ Now Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David; but Jonathan, Saul’s son, delighted greatly in David. ² So Jonathan told David, saying, “My father Saul seeks to kill you. Therefore, please be on your guard until morning, and stay in a secret place and hide.

2) God gave Israel a king even though that wasn’t His perfect plan for them. God permitted a king even when it wasn’t the best form of leadership for them. What does the following passage tell us about finding God’s perfect plan or perfect will for our lives?

Romans 12:1-2

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed

by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

3) This week we were reminded how important it is to stay focused on Jesus; to remember the price He paid for our salvation. We read Psalm 63:1-8 during the message. How can you use David’s thoughts to help you focus more on loving and worshiping the Lord?

Psalm 63:1-8 (NLT)

*¹ O God, you are my God;
I earnestly search for you.
My soul thirsts for you;
my whole body longs for you
in this parched and weary land
where there is no water.
² I have seen you in your sanctuary
and gazed upon your power and glory.
³ Your unfailing love is better than life itself;
how I praise you!
⁴ I will praise you as long as I live,
lifting up my hands to you in prayer.
⁵ You satisfy me more than the richest feast.
I will praise you with songs of joy.
⁶ I lie awake thinking of you,
meditating on you through the night.
⁷ Because you are my helper,
I sing for joy in the shadow of your wings.
⁸ I cling to you;
your strong right hand holds me securely.*

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