

**A Worldly Solution to a Spiritual Problem**  
**1 Samuel 8, 12**  
**September 13, 2020**

**I. A Worldly Solution (Chapter 8)**

- A. A spiritual problem: a conflict caused by a failure to obey God.
- B. A worldly solution: an answer meant to please people more than God.
- C. Worldly solutions to spiritual problems \_\_\_\_\_ past failures.
- D. Worldly solutions to spiritual problems are an attempt to outsmart sinful people and end up \_\_\_\_\_ a sovereign God.
- E. Worldly solutions to spiritual problems do not address \_\_\_\_\_.
- F. Worldly solutions to spiritual problems make problems \_\_\_\_\_.
- G. Sometimes, the \_\_\_\_\_ thing God could do is give you what you want.

**II. A Godly Response (Chapter 12)**

- A. God's people are never in need because they have a \_\_\_\_\_ God. We are only ever in need because our great God cares for a \_\_\_\_\_ people (Psalm 96:7-10 & Psalm 99).
- B. The only way our \_\_\_\_\_ ever work is if we trust God more than we trust them.
- C. When we submit our worldly choices to God in repentance and faith, He is faithful to \_\_\_\_\_ them for His glory.
- D. Who is getting the last word in your life?

## **Group Discussion**

1. Read 1 Samuel 8.
2. In verse 5, was the problem the Israelites had with the current leadership a spiritual or institutional problem? How do you know? Was their proposed solution to this problem more worldly or Godly? How do you know?
3. A worldly solution is an answer meant to please people more than God. A spiritual problem is a conflict caused by a failure to obey God. Is it wise to have worldly solutions to spiritual problems? Why?
4. Are people today tempted, as the Israelites were, to provide worldly solutions for spiritual problems? Give some examples.
5. Read 1 Samuel 12.
6. In trying to solve spiritual problems, why is it important we look back on all God has done for us, as Samuel does in verses 6-12?
7. Although God is allowing Israel to have a king, who is really in charge according to verses 14-15? What does that tell us about worldly solutions?
8. Can God really have the last word on a sinful past, even the decisions that can't be taken back? How?
9. Review the church prayer guide on the next page and exchange prayer requests before closing in prayer.

### **Recommended Reading for Further Study:**

God as King: Read Psalms 93, 95-99

### **Church Bible Reading Plan**

This Week: Read 2 Samuel 1-4

September: Memorize 1 Samuel 17:45-47

**Join us for Prayer: Tuesday Evenings at 7:00PM — Dial 701-802-5374 and at the prompt enter 5160582#**

**Psalm 32:6a**

***Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when you may be found;***

**Our Vision: To create a culture of discipleship that leads to worship and compels us to be on mission.**

PRAY for us as a church family to grow in our devotion and our discipleship.

PRAY that we would be faithful in all our individual areas of ministry.

PRAY that God will draw many to Himself in this difficult time.

PRAY for YOUR ONE to be saved.

PRAY for the ASU West college ministry (a student's mom has experienced a brain bleed and is in the hospital)

PRAY for the AWANA ministry every Wednesday evening at 6:00PM at the church.

PRAY for the people of Puluk in Indonesia to have the opportunity to hear and respond to the Gospel.

PRAY for Dr. John and Karen T. and Dr. Doug and Cheryl D. to be able to return to the mission-field soon.

**Our Mission: To Care as Jesus CARES:**

PRAY for God's protection from the COVID virus as we begin to open the doors of Apollo Baptist

PRAY that we will love and encourage each other by reaching out to our membership. Go through the church directory and try to connect with someone *each day*.

PRAY that God will continue to use the FOOD BOX MINISTRY to bring people to Himself and that we will keep the food pantry stocked.

PRAY for the hospital workers, first responders and police officers to be drawn to God and to be filled with His strength, love, and ability.

PRAY for all of our schools/teachers/administrators/workers in this new school year with difficulties never before encountered.

PRAY for us all to be a source of light in the darkness of racial prejudice.

PRAY that we will each be faithful to give financially to Apollo Baptist Church so that we can have the funds to continuing ministering.

**Our Church Family:**

PRAY for Pastor Gary and our other pastors (Pastor Jim, Pastor Reginald, Pastor Brian) as they seek God's way to lead our church.

PRAY for our deacons to be able to keep up with their families and contacts effectively.

PRAY for our Sunday School leaders to find ways to keep in touch with their class/department.

**Pray For Our Church Family Needs:**

- Those struggling with fear and anxiety because of the pandemic
- Families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones
  - The loss of Jane S. (pray for grieving siblings)
  - The loss of Jayla S.
  - The loss of Mary S.
  - Grief Share participants
- Those struggling with cancer issues:
  - Mary C. (breast cancer), Brenda R. (blood cancer), Terry E.'s sister Beth
- Those struggling with chronic health issues:
  - Michelle L. (migraines), Rezwana D (migraines), Mary R.(kidney function), Ruthie C. (severe weight loss), Diane F. (stroke and in hospital), Jimmy (grandson of Raul O. and Cindy O. has autism), Laura M. (neck vertebrae with ruptured disc causing extreme pain), Elaine D. (dental work needed but cardio issues needed to be addressed prior)
- Those awaiting surgery:
  - Brenda R. (bone marrow transplant), Kevin M. (vertebrae surgery), Phil C.(heart angiogram),
- Those struggling with family relational issues:
  - Julia B. family, Ketty B. friend
- Those needing employment:
  - Larry S., Kevin M. (due to pending surgery)
- Others that you are aware of