

4. Read 1 Samuel 8:10-18. What are some examples of things in life that “promise” to give us something but instead “take” from us?

5. Where do you find yourself turning for fulfillment other than God?

6. Read 1 Samuel 8:19-22. How does the assurance of God’s love for us break the power of sin in our lives?

7. In what ways do we stand out from the world and become signposts to God when we are trusting in God alone as King?

SERIES: A Kingdom Established (Gospel Project)

SERMON 1: “A Kingdom Established...”

TEXT: 1 Samuel 8

DATE: June 10/11, 2017

What gives you a sense of security?

1. When we find our security in something or someone other than God, it reveals that God is not _____ for us.
1 Samuel 8:1-9; 12:11-13

Threats

- Corrupt _____
- Powerful _____

The people were asking for something more than _____ to make them secure.

It would be so much easier to trust God if we could control him, but we can't. So when we don't trust God, the _____ of trust is filled with attempts at control.

2. When we find our security in something or someone other than God, we open the door to _____.
1 Samuel 8:10-18; Galatians 4:8

You become a _____ to that which you depend on for happiness and security.

Every life has a “king.” A king in your life is whatever you _____ have in order to be happy and secure. And kings make all of their subjects into servants.

You're either submitted to Someone who brings life—you're surrendered to God—or you are enslaved to something that brings _____.

3. When we find our security in something or someone other than God, we _____ just like everyone else.
1 Samuel 8:19-22

When the love of God the Father for us is a present reality in our lives, the need to find security in other things can _____.

<p>If you have to have a certain kind of relationship to be happy...</p>	<p>You become the slave of that relationship. You feel miserable all the time if you're single. Or if you're married, you constantly feel like your spouse lets you down. You're tempted to leave your marriage and find fulfillment in a new marriage or an extra-marital affair.</p>
<p>If you have to be successful to find fulfillment...</p>	<p>You become the slave of success. You overwork; you get jealous of other successful people; you resent others for their opportunities, promotions, and praise. You're devastated when people talk about you without giving you due credit and recognizing your value. We say that certain people are "driven by success," but a better way to say it might be that they're "enslaved by success." Success drives us until we destroy our families, our health, and our very lives.</p>
<p>If you have to have some physical escape to release stress or feel relaxed...</p>	<p>It can quickly enslave you. It starts out as an enjoyable escape that you can control, but it ends up as a tyrant that controls you. The type of escape varies—pornography, drugs, alcohol, overeating—but the pattern is the same. It begins as something you can go to on your own terms to escape the tedium of your day, but then you begin to crave it, and more of it, and worse types of it. Soon you cannot turn the drive off. The physical pleasure that you once mastered quickly masters you, ruining relationships and souring every aspect of your life.</p>

Family Discussion Questions:

1. Why did the people of Israel ask for a king?
2. What is the problem with someone looking for security/safety in something or someone other than God?
3. How can we grow to trust God more with our life and find our security in him alone?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Israel's demand for an earthly king was a twisted form of a good desire—for God's kingdom to come through his anointed leader. God's big plan incorporated Israel's sinful desire and eventually led to the coming of Jesus, the King of kings.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Have you ever heard the phrase "My God is like..." or "My God would never do..."? What do these phrases communicate about one's view of God?
3. Read 1 Samuel 8:1-9. What are the signs that we are trusting something or someone other than God for our security and not in God alone?

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who is our King?