

The Calling and The Crown

1 Samuel Ch. 9 & 10

Saul was searching for donkeys and ended up finding a crown- ***his destiny was in the detour***- Why do I say detour? What I didn't mention last week was that Saul was doing something else when he got the command to go find donkeys- Whatever he was planning for the day got put on hold for several days. His plan, whatever it was, was interrupted. But there was a reason for the interruption. We don't typically like to be interrupted, but when life takes a turn we don't see coming, we need to know enough Bible that we can say, "Maybe God's doing something here I don't know about".

God's Will for you is to simply be obedient to His Word in everyday life

Let Him take care of the destinations- make right choices, right things will happen.

9:20-21 Samuel tells Saul he's going to be king- shocked Saul by his response- I'm the least from the least- God often uses the unlikely to accomplish His plans. What does this teach us?

God will use the willing.

They have a meal together, in vs. 25-26 Samuel talks with Saul on the roof of his house- Imagine this conversation - ***You ever lead donkeys?*** Stubborn sometimes- these people you're going to lead? No different- they have tendencies... stubborn and wander off-

Church, don't be like this. **God shouldn't have to put a lead rope around your head to get you to follow Him!**

(Picture of stubborn mule, donkey or horse here fighting lead rope please)

Chapter 10 Saul becomes King

As we read this, I'm going to point out some lessons along the way, but I also want to note that there's no mention of Saul responding to what he's hearing- Samuel is now predicting the future to prove God is in this, and giving Saul orders. Because a great King is also one who knows how to follow orders too- A great King also knows how to serve- At this point Saul doesn't think too highly of himself, but unfortunately that is going to change in a few years.

Vs. 2 **God solves problems when we're obedient.** Saul was obedient, God took care of the details. It's no different in your life.

Vs. 3-4 **God provides for us when we're obedient-** Tithing coupled with good money management will always bring a blessing! *God will bring the rain but if you leave holes in the dam it's not going to fill up-*

Vs. 5-6 **The Spirit of God will be your power, and you will be changed**

IOW- You cannot be what God wants you to be without Him! *You can't be king on your own strength and succeed.*

Every morning ask the Holy Spirit to lead you and guide you. You tried to do it on your own and just made a mess of things, it doesn't work. ***The Power of God is Life Changing Power!*** Self-Help books sell- and I'm all about working on me- but I have to have the power of God to succeed.

We'll find that Saul starts out humbly, but his life has a very sad ending because his heart started out in humility ended up in pride- That's why you have to guard your heart.

Vs. 7- An interesting statement- Do whatever your hands find to do, for God is with you- ***Go build a throne, rally the people to you, claim your crown! Show em who's boss-*** But Samuel basically said “go back to your life and live it with excellence”. We'll see later in 11:4 he was out working in the fields when trouble came and the leader in him he rose up.

Keep doing what you're doing til God tells you different

There's almost always time between the Calling and the Crown

The timing wasn't right yet- My call to pastor happened at 18 but didn't happen until I graduated Bible College- ***There was a process that needed to happen IN me before the pulpit could happen TO me.***

God has to know He can trust you in simple things like looking for donkeys.

People want the crown without the commitment. Don't spend so much time looking to do the Big Thing when all God is asking of you today is to do the small things well-

I've seen people voicing concern about Foreign missions but weren't doing a thing to help the local church- messed up – you know why? Because it's easier to write a check to a missionary than get involved in your home church! How about do both?

Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will be dishonest with much. Luke 16:10

Great destinations are made up of a many good decisions

The Cross