

FAITHFUL MEN

1 Samuel
Gentlemen,

WEEK #: 7

**As iron
sharpens iron,
so one person
sharpens
another.
Proverbs 27:17**

**I will raise up
for myself a
faithful
priest, who will
do according to
what is in my
heart and mind.
I will firmly
establish his
priestly house,
and they will
minister before
my
anointed one
always.
1 Samuel 2:35**

Wow 1 Samuel 12 is an amazing look, for us as men, at how we should view our circumstances. No one will dispute the fact that we men have a lot of responsibilities. We are called to lead our homes, families, careers and communities. This calling brings with it a responsibility to be men of integrity, perseverance and results. As a result we can become overwhelmed by life. Let's look at what 1 Samuel 12 teaches us about life as men.

1. In what areas of your life do you feel empty? Have you found yourself trying to fill these areas of emptiness with earthly things like money, success, and etc.? What are the ramifications of this type of filling?
2. Which circumstances in your life have become overwhelming at the moment? How are you currently dealing with them? Do you find yourself going backwards, away from the progress God has brought you through, towards a past life you know and are comfortable with? What are the dangers of this backward movement?
3. In your times of frustration, loss, anger or despair what is it that you consider? Do you have a tendency to always consider your current state of being or circumstances or do you focus on what God has done for you? Why is it important, as 1 Samuel 12:24 says, for us to consider the GREAT things God has done for us? What are some of the great things God has done in your life?
4. Here is a question for you to consider, if your current circumstances never change could you still be happy? I know many of us would say no, if nothing changed I would be miserable. This is the same attitude the Israelites had when Samuel addressed them. His response is the same for us as it was for them all those years ago, "where do you find happiness?" Do you find happiness in circumstances or in the Savior? Our response to this question says a lot about our ability to survive and conquer. What do you need to do now in order to change your focus from your circumstances to your Savior?

As Faithful Men we have a calling to not only lead our homes, families, businesses, and communities but also a call to lead through the difficult times. We are called to be "faithful" to the God who provides us with a savior and a heavenly reward. Never ever forget to "consider" this during your times of struggle as a man

You're doing great! Keep peeling back the onion and exposing your heart to God's grace, healing and leadership. Please read, discuss and think about 1 Samuel 12 - 14 as you journal this week.