

Harvest Bible Chapel  
Small Group Questions  
August 23, 2009

Marginalizing God 4  
1Samuel 8, 12:19-24

1. Have you ever played a board game with a child? Did you let them win? Have you ever had a child say to you, "King Me!" during a game of checkers? What did you sense in them as they approached victory? How do you think they felt to think that they were "King." What were you thinking while they boasted of their superiority? What do you think God thinks when we act like we are "Kings."

2. Read Ps. 106:15. Read 1Sam. 8:7, 18. Why do you think God gave the people what they asked even though it was contrary to what he wanted for them? Has God ever answered your prayer only to find out later that it was a foolish request? Are there prayers that you never would have prayed if you knew what the result would be? Share a lesson you are having to learn the hard way?

3. Read 1Sam 8:1-3. Read Prov. 17:25, Prov. 10:1. What do you think Samuel felt about his sons? Were you ever a "foolish son?" What affect did this have on your parents? Do you have any children who are not "walking in your ways?" Are there any steps you need to take to reach out to them? If you have a clear conscience that you have done all you can to do to train them in Godliness, what should be your attitude toward them? Maybe some in the group can offer counsel if they have been in this situation.

4. Read and discuss the following statements.

- King Security will take your faith rule you with fear.
- King Significance will take your identity will rule you with pride.
- King Stuff will take your peace and will rule you with discontentment.
- King Self will take your joy and rule you with emptiness.

5. Has it been your experience that replacement kings rule harshly? What replacement Kings do you most often allow to rule you? What has been the result? How can you dethrone this king now?

6. Read 1Tim 6:15, Rev. 1:4-6, Rev. 17:14-16, Rev. 19:16. What title has God given Jesus? What is significant about this title? Are you relating Jesus as King or something less?

7. Read. 1Sam. 12:24. Take time to memorize it as a group. List some of the "great things he has done for you" in praise to him.

8. What thoughts and/or emotions were you having as we concluded the service with Communion?