

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

A Call for Holiness and Faithfulness 1 Samuel 12

Main Thought: From Samuel's exhortation to the Israelites in 1 Samuel 12, we discover some important questions to ask ourselves.

1. _____ THE TEXT...
 - 1) The righteousness of _____ (vv. 1-5)
 - 2) The righteousness of _____ (vv. 6-11)
 - 3) The foolish _____ of the Israelites (v 12)
 - 4) The _____ and confirmation (vv. 13-18)
 - 5) _____ (v 19)
 - 6) A Call for _____ and Faithfulness (vv. 20-25)
2. QUESTIONS FOR US TO _____ IN APPLYING THIS TEXT...
 - 1) Do we regularly _____ the great things the Lord has done for us? (v 24)
 - 2) Do we _____ the Lord? (v 24)
 - 3) Are we living _____ lives empowered by the Holy Spirit? (v 21)
 - 4) Are we faithfully _____ the Lord with all our heart? (vv 20, 24)
 - 5) Do we realize we are _____ beloved sons and daughters? (v 22)

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. Read 1 Samuel 12 and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth to you as you read.

2. What do you learn about God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) from this passage?

3. What do you learn about human beings/yourself from this passage?

4. What verse meant the most to you? Why?

5. What didn't you understand in the passage? What answers did you find for your questions?

6. What application(s) for your life do you take away from this passage?

Digging deeper:

7. What do verses 1-5 reveal about Samuel's character, faith, and tactics?

8. What do verses 1-5 suggest Samuel did about his son's ungodly practices (see 8:3)?

9. Why does Samuel want the Israelites to agree that he is innocent of wrongdoing?

10. What is the purpose of Samuel's history lesson in verses 6-11?

11. From verses 8-11, how would you describe God's military record? What response has the winning streak engendered in Israel?

12. What further reason does Samuel site for Israel's evil desire for a king? (v 12)

13. Now that they have a king, what did the Israelites need to do to maintain God's favor? What would happen if they didn't? (vv 13-15)

14. What does Samuel hope to achieve by prayer for thunder and rain during the harvest season? (vv 17-19)

15. What encouragement, grace, or mercy do you find in verse 20-22?

16. What does loyal covenant living involve for the Israelites? (vv 20-24)