



# The Grove

BIBLE CHAPEL

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## LIFEGROUP RESOURCES: 11.05.23 Pulpit Curriculum

### Biblical Generosity: Has my worship through giving been driven by grace?

Stewardship- God owns everything. I'm His money manager (R. Alcorn). [Matt. 25:14-30]

- In what area of my spending may I be squandering God's money He has given to me to manage?
- In what ways can I increase my worship by becoming a better manager of God's money?

### The Desperate Descent into Darkness

Main passage: 1 Samuel 28-29

#### Saul's Desperate Descent into Darkness – 1 Sam. 28

##### 1) The Witch of Endor

- Saul rejected God's Word and sought the world's ways for wisdom/truth by seeking out a medium/witch/necromancer- someone who talks to the dead.

A. What worldly "answers" are the biggest temptation for you to pursue rather than God's Word? \_\_\_\_\_

B. We should never be entertained by those who are playing games with the occult and the demonic. Is there a form of worldly entertainment/music that the Lord is convicting you to surrender over to Him because it does not ultimately glorify Him and perhaps hinders your sanctification and followership of Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

##### 2) Saul's Garments

- Saul disguised himself when visiting the witch of Endor by putting on other garments. Garments are very symbolic in 1 Samuel, representing what one is relying upon as their identity and standing before men.

A. As followers of Christ, God gives us a "change of clothing of the heart" as we receive a heart of flesh for our heart of stone, being empowered to walk in truth, holiness, and purity. In what ways have you seen measurable



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spiritual progress with this “change of clothing of the heart” in your daily life in the last 6 months? \_\_\_\_\_

**B.** The garment of Christ’s robe of righteousness is imputed to those who have repented and trusted in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. What filthy, tattered garment do you find yourself relying upon as your identity versus your new identity of righteousness in Christ? \_\_\_\_\_

3) Saul’s Fear [vv. 5,15, 20, 21; Ps. 112:1]

- Since Saul rejected God who is the author of peace and soundness of mind, he was driven by doublemindedness into sinful paganism that only produced more anxiety and fear in his life.

**A.** Fearing God leads us to sound judgment, peace, wisdom, and obedience to Him. What area of your life do you need more of the fear of God? What area of your life do you experience the greatest fear/anxiety because of this lack of the fear of the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

4) Saul’s Judgement [1 Sam. 9:22-25 → 1 Sam. 28]

- Saul rejected God’s Word, and that behavior led him away from obedience to the Lord. As he denied his wrongdoing (1 Sam. 15:20), it drove him to have a hardened heart (v. 6), into self-pity (v. 15), and into utter rebellion (Ch. 28) which resulted in God’s judgment upon Saul (1 Sam. 15:22-23).

5) You Need to Listen to God’s Word [Is. 8:19]

- Instead of seeking and listening to God’s Word, Saul sought out a medium/witch/necromancer who only knew how to “chirp and mutter.”

**A.** God’s Word speaks clearly and plainly. How do you plan on listening to God better [in worship (Lk. 10:42), humility (Ps. 143:7), dependence (Ps. 121), honor (Prov. 3:5-6), wisdom (Ps. 119:66-68), obedience (Is. 55:1-3)]?

## God Rescues David from Foolishness – 1 Sam. 29

1) David’s Foolishness [1 Sam. 27:1]

- Foolishness began in David’s heart as he spoke to himself, believing lies.

**A.** We influence ourselves the most in our life through self-talk. What are the most common messages that you speak to yourself that may be leading



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you away from God's truth? How can you stir yourself up with God's truth and the gospel daily? \_\_\_\_\_

2) David's Influence [v. 3, 6, 9]

- God gave David influence to find favor with even a pagan king such as Achish.

3) God's Rescue [Prov. 21:1]

- In God's sovereignty, He used pagan kings to release David from serving them.

**A.** Can you describe a time when God sovereignly intervened and rescued you from a seemingly impossible situation?

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