

Shepherding Community Questions

Sunday, August 3, 2025

Key Passage: 1 Samuel 12:1-25

- 1) (Icebreaker) What/who is the best pet you have ever had? If you've never had a pet, why not?
- 2) What have you learned about Samuel and his ministry so far through this series?
- 3) According to verses 17-19 of our Key Passage, God gave the people a king because they asked for one, despite the fact that He didn't want them to have a king (other than Him). Why would God do this?
- 4) In verse 20, Samuel identifies that the people had done evil, but also tells them not to be afraid. Why would he say both of those things?
 - a. *Hint: does their behavior determine their standing before God? Why or why not?*
- 5) Why is the truth of Romans 5:8 important to you, personally?
- 6) As we consider the totality of 1 Samuel 12, as well as John 3:16-21, it might be easy to think that through good behavior, we can earn God's love or approval.
 - a. Why is that not the case?
 - b. What's a better way to talk about the relationship between obedience and salvation?
 - c. Why are humans so prone to feeling the need to "earn salvation?"
- 7) Who is in the family of God, and who is not? Support your assertion with scripture.
- 8) Pray!