Reflection Questions

Doctrine (What does this passage teach us):

Does God discipline His children?

Reproof (What wrong thinking does this passage expose):

How does prayer demonstrate a repentant heart?

Correction (How does this passage fix wrong thinking):

Why is God merciful—even to the proud (22)?

Instruction in Righteousness (How does this passage help us to continue):

How does God's faithfulness to His great name encourage us to repent?

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, November 30, 2025

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ Luke 2:21-38

Song #184 ~ What Child is This?

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Hosea 5:1-15

Song #177 ~ Joy has Dawned

Scripture Reading: Hosea 6:1-11

Prayer

Sermon ~ 1 Samuel 12:1-25

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #172 ~ Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery

1 Samuel 2:10

Those who contend with the Lord will be shattered;
Against them He will thunder in the heavens,
The Lord will judge the ends of the earth;
And He will give strength to His king,
And will exalt the horn of His anointed.

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Text: 1 Samuel 12:1-25

Theme: God exalts the humble and crushes the proud (9:1-10:27).

Introduction: The cycle of the book of Judges is not only repeated in the book of Samuel (9-11), but also in our own lives. God's people forget God. God brings judgment. God's people repent. God sends a deliverer. Instead of continuing the cycle, Samuel calls us to fear the Lord and serve Him (14, 20, 24).

I. God exalts the humble and crushes the proud (12:1-25).

A. The proud reject the Lord from ruling over them (1-25; cf. 12).

1. Even though Samuel had never defrauded or oppressed the people, they still rejected the Lord from ruling over them (1-5).

Explanation: They had every opportunity to identify ways that Samuel had defrauded or oppressed them, yet they weren't able to (cf. 3-4). Unlike many of Israel's leaders, Samuel painted a picture of a righteous leader which would ultimately be fulfilled in Christ.

Explanation: Perhaps the people remembered the wickedness of Eli and his sons (1 Sam. 2:12, 22, 27-29) or how Samuel's sons took bribes (8:3). Instead of patiently waiting for God to deal with these leaders, the Israelites chose to reject the Lord from ruling over them (12).

2. When Israel cried out for help, God always sent deliverers (6-12).

Explanation: God had always been faithful in the past. When Israel was enslaved in Egypt God sent Moses and Aaron (6-8). When Sisera and the king of Moab fought against them, God sent deliverers (9-11). But now, when Nahash prepared for battle, Israel refused to trust in the Lord who had always delivered them (12).

Explanation: Does God still discipline His people? Yes! In fact, every one of His children face His discipline (Heb. 12:7-8). When facing trials, we ought to ask ourselves if this is the discipline of the Lord. But instead, like Israel, we try to get out of the discipline without considering our own sin. Now, not every trial is the Lord's discipline (cf. Job). Yet, we often assume that a trial is not God's discipline.

Application: Can you think of a time when God disciplined you? If not, you have likely not given attention to the discipline of the Lord.

3. Those who continue in their pride will be crushed (13-18, 25).

Explanation: Again, Hannah's prayer is used—"against them He will thunder in the heavens" (2:10; cf. 17-18). When the proud refuse to repent, they will be crushed.

4. Those who fear the Lord and serve Him will see mercy (19-24).

Explanation: Prayer is not merely asking God for help. It also demonstrates a reliance on God. When we ask God for help, we are showing that we need His help.

Conclusion: If we're honest, each of us recognizes our own pride. We forget God. God brings judgment. Then we revolt against Him as though He doesn't discipline His children. Yet, God does not abandon His people (22). Instead, God calls His people to repent because of His great name!