

1. The necessity of total surrender

- a) How did the Son of God model total surrender? Philippians 2:5-8
- b) How did Jesus describe this act of total surrender? John 12:24-26, Luke 9:23-24
- c) How did the apostle Paul describe this act of total surrender? Romans 12:1-2
- d) What assurance do we have of God’s provision and loving care when we totally surrender to Him? Matthew 6:25-33, 28:20, Philippians 4:19-20, etc.

2. A willingness to listen to the LORD

- a) Why was the word of the LORD rarely heard when Samuel was a young boy? Did the LORD no longer speak? 1 Samuel 3:1 (see 1 Samuel 2:12-17, 22-25)
- b) How did young Samuel demonstrate a willingness to listen to the LORD? 1 Samuel 3:2-10
- c) Surrounded by great wickedness, how was Samuel able to develop a listening heart? 1 Samuel 1:20-28, 2:19 (see PP 572)
- d) What is the most important lesson you learn from the story of the young boy Samuel?

3. The danger of disregarding the Word of the LORD

- a) What specific instructions did Samuel give to Saul after anointing him as king? 1 Samuel 10:8

- b) 1 Samuel 13:7-14 Why did King Saul disregard the word of the LORD through the prophet Samuel?
- c) What warning is given to us by Solomon about choosing our own way rather than obeying the word of the LORD? Proverbs 14:12
- d) Where did Saul’s habit of disregarding the word of the LORD lead him? 1 Samuel 28:3-8, 31:1-6
- e) Why did the LORD permit Saul to be anointed as the first king of Israel if He knew Saul’s life would end so tragically? 1 Samuel 8:4-7 (also Romans 1:18-32)

4. Total obedience to the LORD

- a) What inspiring examples can you find in the Scriptures of people who chose to obey the Word of the LORD even if the result was suffering and trial? Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, Daniel, Peter and the apostles, Stephen, etc.
- b) Share a time when you chose to obey the Word of the LORD even though the choice would lead to suffering and trial.
- c) What counsel would you give to a friend who says to you, “I know I need to make a total surrender to Christ, but it seems too difficult for me”?

