

How to Live Like a King, Part 2: Obedience Brings Blessing

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Luke 11:28, NIV – [Jesus said,] Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.

Obedience is _____ what I know about _____

Fast Facts about King Saul:

Saul Doesn't Wait for Samuel

1 Samuel 13:8-14, NIV – He waited seven days, the time set by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and Saul's men began to scatter. So he said, "Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings." And Saul offered up the burnt offering. Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet (bless) him. "What have you done?" asked Samuel. Saul replied, "When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Mikmash, I thought, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the Lord's favor.' So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering." "You have done a foolish thing," Samuel said. "You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time. But now your kingdom will not endure; the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the Lord's command."

Characteristic of Disobedience: _____ and _____

1 Samuel 13:13a, NIV – (Samuel to Saul:) You have done a foolish thing.

Life Lesson: _____

Psalms 119:60, NLT – I will hurry, without delay, to obey your commands.

Saul Makes a Foolish Vow

1 Samuel 14:24, NLT – Now the men of Israel were pressed to exhaustion that day, because Saul had placed them under an oath, saying, 'Let a curse fall on anyone who eats before evening—before I have full revenge on my enemies.' So no one ate anything all day.

Characteristic of Disobedience: the need to _____

Proverbs 29:20, NLT – There is more hope for a fool than for someone who speaks without thinking.

Life Lesson: _____

Psalms 119:24, CEV – Your laws are my greatest joy! I follow their advice.

Saul Thinks He Knows Better Than God

Deuteronomy 25:18, NLT – They attacked you when you were exhausted and weary, and they struck down those who were straggling behind. They had no fear of God.

1 Samuel 15:12-15, 19-20, NLT – Early the next morning Samuel went to find Saul. Someone told him, “Saul went to the town of Carmel to set up a monument to himself; then he went on to Gilgal.” When Samuel finally found him, Saul greeted him cheerfully. “May the Lord bless you,” he said. “I have carried out the Lord’s command!” “Then what is all the bleating of sheep and goats and the lowing of cattle I hear?” Samuel demanded. “It’s true that the army spared the best of the sheep, goats, and cattle,” Saul admitted. “But they are going to sacrifice them to the Lord your God. We have destroyed everything else.” ...[Samuel asked,] “Why haven’t you obeyed the Lord? Why did you rush for the plunder and do what was evil in the Lord’s sight?” “But I did obey the Lord,” Saul insisted. “I carried out the mission he gave me. I brought back King Agag, but I destroyed everyone else.”

Characteristic of Disobedience: _____

Life Lesson: _____

1 Samuel 15:22, NCV – Samuel answered, “What pleases the Lord more: burnt offerings and sacrifices or obedience to his voice? It is better to obey than to sacrifice. It is better to listen to God...”

Ephesians 1:7-9 (NIV): In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ...