

Dig Deeper into 1 Sam 9:1-10:16 for individuals and lifegroups

1 Sam 9:1-10:16 A ruler must rule under God's rule!

God gives the people their King...

9:1-24 Find my IPhone!
...with complete control Trust God's hand

9:25-10:8 Listen closely OOT!
...with clear commands Prioritise God's Word

10:9-16 Wonders never cease!
...with surprising secrecy Recognise God's King

Here are some questions and resources to help dig deeper into 1 Samuel 9&10. It's a long passage so you might like to break it into the sections we had in the sermon (see above).

1. Getting your bearings in the book...

Flick through the section headings from 1 Samuel 8-16 (our section for this sermon series, which we are calling “The Saul Story”). What mixed feelings do you get from that brief glimpse? (If you can read through the whole section at some point you will get even more out of it). What kinds of lessons do you think can be learned from such a flawed leader? If time: Was it wrong to have a King? (see 1 Sam 8 / Deut 17:14-20).

2. 9:1-24. In this section what could you describe as “ordinary” and what could you describe as “extraordinary”? Do you have any stories of God working through the most mundane situations? How does that help you to trust God when life is hard or boring?

3. 9:25-10:8 What is the “message from God”? How should the whole section leave Saul (and us) in no doubt that God is the true King and that leaders are under his command? Why do we need leaders that listen to God’s Word? How might that insight affect your prayers?

4. 10:9-16 Although it’s about to change (next section) very few people know about the Kingship of Saul- only Samuel and Saul! In what sense do people fail to recognise the Kingship of Jesus today? When do we also downplay it in our own lives?¹

Some resources...

- Here is the **Bible Project’s** introduction diagram of 1 Samuel <https://bibleproject.com/guides/books-of-samuel/>
- If you are enjoying the material, why not listen to some of our **2019 sermons** on 1 Sam 1-8 at https://christchurchhuntingdon.co.uk/Groups/316749/1_Samuel_Returning.aspx.
- Some **extra notes** that I have put together for lifegroup leaders and preachers and kids workers are [here](#)). They include further online resources and book recommendations.



¹ 10:12 is a little tricky. How does it fit? “Father” here could be (John Woodhouse) a reference to the leader of a band of prophets, so they are expressing surprise and potentially raising a question of the legitimacy of Saul to be a prophet. Another view (Dale Ralph Davis) is that they are asking who is the source of such activity? Answer God.