1 Samuel Lesson 6 (2020)

**SAMUEL’S FAREWELL SPEECH**

1 Samuel 12:1-25

Key Verse:12:23-24

**Open it:**

1. What politician or leader can you think of who can back up his or her claims of a clear conscience? What short of events are the most likely to inspire awe toward God?

**Explore it:**

1. Read verses 1-5. What was Samuel’s age and state of life when he made his farewell speech? (2) What were some of the common corruptions of power in the days of ancient Israel? (3) How did the Israelites judge Samuel’s honesty and integrity?
2. Read verses 6-11. What pattern was repeated over and over in the history of God’s dealing with Israel? For what sin did God punish Israel by defeat at the hands of the Philistines and Moabites? (10) What instruments did God use to deliver Israel when they cried out to him? (11)
3. Rea verses 12-19. In what sense was it a great sin for them to ask for a king? (12) What two conditions would Israel have to fulfill to keep God’s blessing? (14) What sign did Samuel perform to convince the people that they had displeased God? (16-17) How did the people respond to the sign provided by Samuel and God? (18-19)
4. Read verses 20-22. How did Samuel comfort and encourage his people, and what direction did he give them? (20-21) How did Samuel plant hope in them? (22)
5. Read verse 23-25. Even though he was stepping down as their leaders, what two things did Samuel promise to keep on doing for them, and why? How could the people of Israel possibly serve God faithfully with all their hearts? According to Samuel, what would be the consequence if Israel continued to do evil? (25)

**Apply it:**

1. What is one personal story of God’s deliverance that could remind you to “fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart” this week?