

“God’s Providential Work in the Mundane (Ordinary)”  
1 Samuel 9:1-27

“This chapter lets us see how God works in the common or mundane details of life. How *God accomplishes His purposes* while at the same time, *man acts freely*.”

“The providence of God is His purposeful sovereignty by which He will be completely successful in the achievement of His ultimate goal for the universe. God’s providence carries His plans into action, and guides all things toward His ultimate goal.” (John Piper)

*“As for you, you meant (act freely) evil against me, but God meant (accomplishes His purposes) it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.” (Genesis 50:20)*  
*“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28)*

- Introduction to Saul: 1 Samuel 9:1-5
  - There is another major transition getting ready to take place in Israel. Eli to Samuel (disobedient to obedient) and now Samuel to Saul (obedient to disobedient). We also see a father and son pattern through the book of Samuel so far: Eli & Hophni and Phinehas; Samuel and Joel & Abijah; and then finally, Kish and Saul. We see that a man’s righteousness is not passed on naturally, but his sin nature is.... *“Behold I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.” (Psalm 51:5)*
  - Saul’s name in Hebrew means “to be asked for”. Both Sauls in the Bible were from the tribe of Benjamin (Philippians 3:5). Saul came from a wealthy family, and culturally, donkeys were a sign of wealth (1 Samuel 8:16). Saul was the most handsome man in all of Israel and he was also the most tall man in all of Israel. *“But the LORD said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.’” (1 Samuel 16:7)*
- How God uses donkeys, young men, and young women for His purposes: 1 Samuel 9:1-13
  - God used the donkeys of Kish as a means to get Saul to meet Samuel. *“Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand” (Proverbs 19:21)*. The plan of Saul was to find the donkeys, the plan of God was for Saul to meet Samuel.
  - When Saul went to look for the donkeys he selected a specific young man that was aware of Samuel’s reputation and had a quarter shekel of silver to offer Samuel as a gift for guidance. *“The heart of a man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.” (Proverbs 16:9)*
    - Saul showed humility in listening to the counsel of this young man.... *“Anxiety in a man’s heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad. One who is righteous is a guide to his neighbor, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.” (Proverbs 12:25-26)*
  - Saul went to the city at the precise time that the women would be going to get water so that he could receive the necessary information to find Samuel. *“The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.” (Proverbs 16:33)*
    - Both named and unnamed people are significant in accomplishing God’s purposes Scripturally. Ultimately everything is about God and His glory and His purposes.
- The Prophet-Priest meets the King: 1 Samuel 9:14-24
  - During this period of time Samuel is probably doing his circuit from city to city, judging them and making sacrifices (1 Samuel 7:15-17).

(continued →)

**Worship:** Psalm 18 (Citizens)

Christ The Solid Rock (Norton Hall Band)

**Service Times:** Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;  
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- “Today about this time *I will send to you* a man from the land of Benjamin...”
- God will use Saul to take care of His disobedient people (1 Samuel 8:6-7; 1 Samuel 12:22-23). “He will be a prince over My people”; “He shall save My people”; “For I have seen My people”; “He will restrain My people”.
  - *“He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.” (1 Peter 2:24-25)*
- Samuel gives Saul comfort and validates himself as a prophet by telling Saul information that can be tested (Deuteronomy 18:18-22).
- A fellowship or peace offering is taking place in this portion of Scripture (Leviticus 7:11-34). This offering points to peace or fellowship with God and peace or fellowship with your fellow man. God was going to take care of His people through Saul. This offering is ultimately seen in the work of Christ...*“Therefore since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.” (Romans 5:1; Colossians 3:11)*
- Samuel tells Saul the Word of God: 1 Samuel 9:25-27
  - God represents Himself by godly men. He leads, He speaks, He comforts, He encourages people by His people. God uses people to accomplish His purposes...*“and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of Him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are persisting, to one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life.” (2 Corinthians 2:14-16)*

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**Announcements:**

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of July we are collecting donations for Heartbeats. They are in need of: New SUMMER clothing only — size 3 months to 3T; Swim diapers ONLY (they are well stocked on regular diapers); and diaper bags. There is a tote in front of the back table to put your donations in!

★**KINGS ISLAND TRIP:** Christina Strawn is organizing a group trip to Kings Island on Saturday, August 13th. Group Admission tickets are \$42 each (minimum of 15 people). Please contact Christina (740-755-6512) if you would like to go or you have any questions!

★**LADIES:** We are wanting to do a sourdough bread making class together soon. If this is something you are interested in doing, please let Krystal know so that we can get a head count and set an official day and time for this! This will be a great opportunity for fellowship and to have fun together!

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner THIS Sunday, July 17th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something to the dinner. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!