

Friday (April 27)—**prayerfully** skim through chs. 5-8 as you answer the following taken from *One-to-One Bible Reading* (David Helm).

1. Summarize briefly the story of these four chapters (I Samuel 5-8).

2. Who are the major characters in these chapters? _____

3. What do you think is the main point or theme in this section of the story? _____
4. What happened just prior to the opening of these chapters? Samuel was established as leader (prophet/priest/judge) of Israel
5. Were there any surprises? I was surprised by the thoughts that (1) the Scriptures verbalized that Samuel was rejected as well as the LORD (8:8c) and (2) the parallel between the Israelites wanting a king and a child wanting to leave home prematurely
6. Do you think these questions are too difficult? No, not for people as smart and diligent as these CBCers

Saturday (April 28)—please continue!

1. Are there any “editorial” comments from the author about the events in the narrative (I Samuel 5-8)? “the hand of the LORD was very heavy there” (5:11); “and the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel” (7:13}

Questions 2-6 are in Teachers’ Guide, as your class has time.

2. How does the passage point forward to what God is going to do in the future?
3. How could you sum up the meaning in the passage in your own words? _____
4. How does this passage challenge your understanding about who God is and what He is like?
5. Is there some attitude or behavior you need to change?
6. Do you see anything else to apply to your life?

Sunday (April 29)—pray for today’s discussion and fellowship, **determining to talk your fair share** (not too much or too little).

due April 29, 2018

**Who is able to stand
before this holy LORD God (6:20)?!
I Samuel 5-8**

Theme of I Samuel: the establishment of the monarchy in Israel
Message (also preliminary): God raises up and puts down kings

I Samuel Outline (G. Campbell Morgan)

- I. Samuel (1-7)
- II. Saul (8-15)
- III. David (16-31)

(suggestion-repeat) Please be prepared to share a personal blessing at the beginning of the class, perhaps God’s encouraging you in some way this week in your personal Bible time!

I would like to try the “different perspective” questions a second time, on the second four chapters of I Samuel, to give them a chance and to see if we end up finding them helpful, and not just painful. They are the Friday and Saturday questions. Actually, I simplified them and answered some of them for you (feel free to go beyond the call of duty and improve on my answers)!

Monday (April 23)—prayerfully read/enjoy I Samuel 5 (thinking in terms of gazing on the beauty of the Lord, Jeremiah 15:16).

1. Where was the captured ark taken, and what happened there (5:1-4)?

2. What other punishment fell on the people of Ashdod, and did they recognize that the destruction was the hand of God (5:6-7)? (“Emerods” is sometimes translated “tumors.”) _____

3. What wise thing did the men of Ashdod do, and where was the ark taken next, and what happened there (5:8-9)? _____

4. Where was the ark sent next, and did these people want the ark (5:10)? _____
5. What one of two things happened to all the men, apparently in all three of these Philistine cities, and what went up to heaven (apparently from Ekron) (5:12)? _____

6. What can we learn about God from this chapter? _____

Tuesday (April 24)—prayerfully read I Samuel 6 and then answer.

1. For how long was the ark in the country of the Philistines, and whose counsel did the Philistines seek as to what to do with it (6:1-2)?

2. The counsel was to not send the ark back empty; with what were they to send the ark back (6:3-5)? _____

(bonus) What would doing this give to the God of Israel (v. 5)? _____

3. How were the jewels of gold (presumably the gold emerods and mice) to be packaged; and, if the cart did not go up to Bethshemesh (return to Israel), what would they declare had been behind their being smitten (6:8-9)? _____

4. What were the men of Bethshemesh doing when they saw the ark, and what did they do when they saw it (6:10-18—please read all this section even though the answers to this question are in vs. 13-15)?

5. What ignorant thing did the men of Bethshemesh do, and how many of them were killed as a consequence (6:19)? _____

6. What attribute of God was credited by the survivors of Bethshemesh with why their fellow citizens had been slaughtered, and what practical application can you take with you for the day (6:20)?

Wednesday (April 25)—prayerfully read I Samuel 7 and answer.

1. What city had the ark next, in whose house did it stay, and who was sanctified (set apart) to tend to (“keep”) the ark (7:1-2)?

(bonus) How long did the ark stay in this setting? _____

2. What did Samuel tell the grieving Israelites would lead to their deliverance from the Philistines, and where did he tell them to assemble (7:3-6)? _____

3. Who came up against the assembled Israelites at Mizpeh, and what was the Israelites’ response (7:7-9)? _____

4. How were the Philistines defeated that day (7:10-12)? _____

(bonus) Name the stone set up to commemorate that day’s great victory over the Philistines. _____

5. Who was subdued before the Israelites all the days of Samuel, and what nation had peace with Israel during this time (7:13-14)?

6. What circuit did Samuel travel, and where was his home (7:15-17) _____; and, do you think he had a family life (cf. 2:11)? _____

Thursday (April 26)—**prayerfully** read I Samuel 8 and answer.

1. Name Samuel’s two sons, where they served as judges, and their weakness (8:1-3)? _____

Consider that perhaps part of a child-training problem was that Samuel did not give his sons leadership responsibility until he was old (cf. 8:1); it is good to make our children take responsibility from their youth, especially by giving them opportunities to lead/serve.

2. What did Israel’s elders request of Samuel, and what reason did they give (7:4-5)? _____

3. What do you suppose the LORD meant in the last line of verse 8 (“so do they also unto thee?”) (8:6-9)? _____

4. How many burdens did Samuel list that a king would place upon them, and which one would you esteem the heaviest (8:10-18)? (His speech sounds like a parent reasoning with his child who is wanting to leave home prematurely.) _____

5. What three reasons did the people give for still wanting a king, in spite of the heavy burdens which would accompany having one (8:19-20)? _____

6. What can you apply to your life from this chapter? _____
