

# SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

## A PICTURE OF REPENTANCE

I SAMUEL 7:1-17

MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2023

- I. A Picture of Repentance: vs. 1-6
  - a. Remorse over sin: vs. 2
  - b. Returning to the Lord: vs. 3a
  - c. Removal of sin: vs. 3b
  - d. Replacing sin with God: vs. 3c
  - e. Receiving God's blessing: vs. 3d
- II. Rematch with the Philistines: vs. 7-12
- III. Victory and Peace: vs. 13-17

### Questions:

1. What is the danger of confusing repentance with rebranding? What are some the key differences?
2. Part of the challenge with repentance is reality that false repentance ("worldly sorrow" according to 2 Corinthians 7:10) exists. Out of the characteristics of false repentance shared by Pastor Chris, which one are you most susceptible to and why?
  - Blame-shifting
  - Minimizing the sin
  - Half-truth confessions
  - Avoidance of consequences
  - Returning to the same sin or replacing it with a new sin
3. Which of the five steps of repentance demonstrated by Israel was most helpful (review with the whole group each of the steps before answering)? Which of the five steps are most weak in demonstrating?
  - Remorse over sin: vs. 2
  - Returning to the Lord: vs. 3a
  - Removal of sin: vs. 3b
  - Replacing sin with God: vs. 3c
  - Receiving God's blessing: vs. 3d
4. What are specific fruits of repentance ("Bear fruit in keeping with repentance" - Luke 3:8) in each of the following passages of Scripture? Assign each person or couple a passage and give them 5-10 minutes to answer that question. Then, share with the whole group {Not every example gives us the full picture of repentance, but together we can paint one}.
  - Luke 7:36-50
  - Luke 15:11-32
  - Luke 19:1-10

- 1 Chronicles 21:1-22:1
- Psalm 51:1-17
- John 21:15-19

5. Do you have an "Ebenezer" in your own life or a moment/experience of God's faithfulness/helping hand that you recall regularly? If so, please share with the group.
  
6. In what ways does this passage point forward to Jesus (there are many; answers below)?
  - Samuel's call of repentance: vs. 3 → Matthew 4:17; Luke 5:32
  - The intercession of Samuel on behalf of God's people: vs. 5,8 → Hebrews 7:25
  - The sacrificed lamb: vs. 9 → John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:18-21
  - The faithfulness and help of the Lord: vs. 12 → Hebrews 4:14-16; 13:6
  - Warrior God thundering in victory: vs. 10 → Revelation 19:11-16
  
7. In light of 1 Samuel 7 and the emphasis on repentance:
  - What habit or area of your life does God look at and say, "That's not Mine yet"?
  - Which of these steps of repentance outline in 1 Samuel 7 do you need to apply right now?