

1-2 SAMUEL: THE ROLE OF A PROPHET

God At Work **1 Samuel 5-7**

1. What is the best (meaning worst) white elephant gift you have gotten stuck with?
2. Why is God so heavy handed with the Philistines? Who is at fault for their suffering?
3. Why do the Philistine priests suggest a guilt offering be sent back to Israel with the ark? How were the Philistines trying to be sure that the God of Israel had brought the plague upon them?
4. When do you find yourself mishandling sacred things? Why do you do this?
5. What is the spiritual condition of Israel in 1Sam 7.2-6? How do they express sincere repentance?
6. What stands out to you when you work through the anatomy of repentance in v3? Why?
7. How is Israel's approach to battle different here from Chapter 4?
8. What role does confession of sin play in receiving God's blessings? Why is this important?
9. Why does Samuel set up the stone at Ebenezer? What memorials have you set up to remind you of when God has greatly blessed you? Why are they important?
10. God often uses the dark circumstances of our lives to bring about glory for himself and holiness in us. Think about some of the harder parts of your life right now—how could God be using this for his glory? How could he be using it for your holiness?
11. When God convicts you of sin and brings difficult circumstances into your life, do you create distance and remain comfortable, or do you surrender on his terms and do whatever it takes to get in alignment with God? What kinds of things will it take for you to get in alignment with him?