

1-2 SAMUEL: THE RULE OF A POLITICIAN

Close Doesn't Count **1 Samuel 15**

1. Besides "horseshoes and hand grenades" where else in life is "close" good enough? What is the danger of accepting close as good enough?
2. Read Deuteronomy 25.17-19. Why do you think God commanded even innocent children and animals to be killed? Does saying "God's ways are not our ways" make it easier to accept?
3. What distinguished the things Israel destroyed from the things they kept (v9)?
4. What do you think prompted Saul to disobey God in the first place? Can you identify with Saul's disobedience? Why or why not?
5. In what ways do you cover up your disobedience by hiding sinful motivations behind a spiritual front?
6. Why does Samuel continue to mourn for Saul (v11, 35, and 16.1)?
7. Do you have someone in your life who will ask you "Is that sheep I hear?" In other words, who is your Samuel that will instruct you in the ways of God and rebuke you when you fall short?
8. What does God really want from Saul? What does it do to your heart to know that our disobedience can only be overcome by the good news of Jesus?
9. When does God's grief move you to grieve? How can your mind begin to reflect more and more what's on God's mind?
10. Out of everything we talked about from God's Word today, what did the Holy Spirit use to speak to you most clearly? Now that He's shown you that, what are you going to do about it?