



BELONGING TO
GOD
 THE LIFE OF SAMUEL

Outline

**Today's Message based on 1 Samuel
 4:1-22.**

**Message 4
 Correction**

**J.C. Thompson
 February 4, 2018**

"... let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."
Isaiah 55:7 (ESV)

We respond to God's correction by...

**1. _____ on God.
 (1 Samuel 4:4. C/R: Psalm 69:3; Proverbs 3:5-6)**

**2. _____ His Authority.
 (1 Samuel 4:5-11. C/R: Exodus 14:14;
 Deuteronomy 1:29-30; Psalm 20:7; Proverbs 21:31)**

**3. _____.
 (1 Samuel 4:12-22. C/R: Isaiah 55:7;
 Romans 5:3-4; 8:38-39; Galatians 6:7-8)**

Answers: 1. Relying 2. Recognizing 3. Repenting
Resource Information: Unless otherwise noted, outline and onscreen verses are from NLT version (New Living Translation) of *The Holy Bible*. C/R, if noted, refers to a 'cross reference' of Scripture verse(s). Today's outline and discussion guide are available to mobile device users through the Brookwood Church app available through your favorite app store.

► Discussion Guide

Use this guide with friends or on your own to pursue your relationship with Jesus. Take time to reflect, learn and talk with God. Find a Small Group at brookwoodchurch.org/smallgroups.

Conversation Starter

When were you most tempted to quit? What did you learn from that experience?

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [1 Samuel 4:1-3](#).

1. After being defeated by the Philistines ([vs. 1-3](#)), what question did the Israelites ask?
2. Have you ever experienced difficulty or defeat and wondered why God would cause or allow things like that to happen? If so, describe the situation.
3. What questions did your struggle raise about yourself?
4. What questions did your struggle raise about God?
5. Why are we sometimes reluctant to ask these kinds of questions? How can these questions help us grow in our relationship with God?

Read [1 Samuel 4:3-11](#).

6. What do you think was the primary motivation for the Israelites to go get the Ark of the Covenant ([vs. 3-5](#))?
7. Why do you think the Ark didn't bring victory to the Israelites? (This second defeat was a *slaughter* and the Ark was captured!)

Read [1 Samuel 4:12-18](#).

8. This is the aftermath of the battle. Summarize what happened.

Read [1 Samuel 4:19-22](#).

9. Phinehas' wife had gone through terrible tragedy. Reflect for a moment: had the glory of God really departed, or was this only her perspective? Why do you think that?
10. What are some lessons you're learning in [1 Samuel 4](#)?

Soul Training

Finish this sentence in several ways, then make this your prayer:

God, I believe you are good. I trust you with _____.

Today and throughout the week name specific situations and relationships in your life, and practice releasing these things into God's hands. May God use this time to help you experience His goodness, comfort and strength.

Memory Verse

"...let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."

[Isaiah 55:7 \(ESV\)](#)

Daily Reading

Day 1: [1 Samuel 4:1-11](#)

Day 4: [Proverbs 3:5-6](#)

Day 2: [1 Samuel 4:12-22](#)

Day 5: [Jude 1:20-21](#)

Day 3: [Psalm 77:1-14](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, February 11, we'll continue our series *Belonging to God: The Life of Samuel*. To prepare for the message, spend a few quiet moments reading [1 Samuel 5:1-12](#); [6:1-21](#).