



not what i planned!!!

When You Get What You Asked For!

Journey with Jesus: Luke 23:17-24:49
October 9, 2016 – Matt VanGent

What have we learned from Saul's life?

1. The God of Israel is still _____ and
the gods of the Philistines are still _____.

1 Samuel 31:19

Take Home Truth

When the going gets _____,
the faithful _____ in God.

What themes have emerged from I Samuel?

1. God is _____.

2. God's people are called to respond in _____
and _____.

Today's Core Virtue:

*Peace: I am free from anxiety because things
are right between God, others and myself."
(from Phil. 4:6-7)*

Today's Action:

*Regardless of your circumstances, are you
experiencing God's peace in your life? Read
through Psalm 31 and let David's words be
a prayer that you offer to God.*

hand in hand



verse by verse

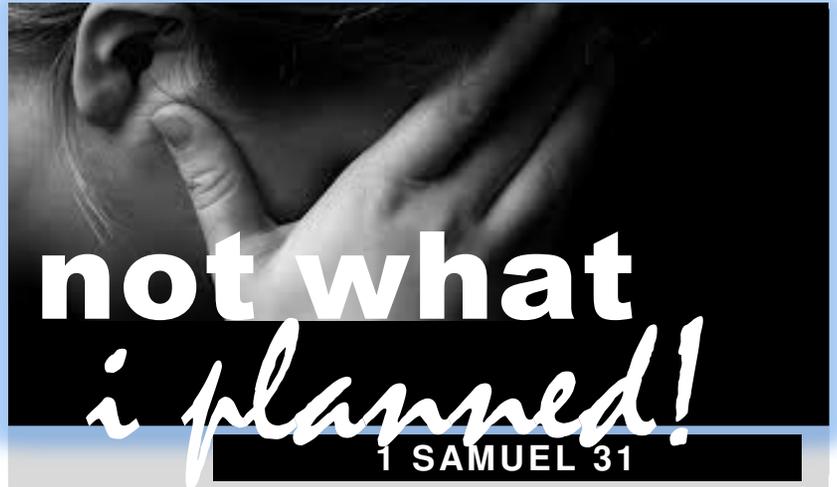
Deeper Connection Study

What was prophesied by Samuel in 28:19 comes to fruition in chapter 31, albeit in a different manner than we expect. It truly is a tragic ending literally and literarily! It does, though, set the stage for the new anointed leader, one who has been waiting to fulfill God's appointment (cf. II Samuel). That moment cannot arrive until the chaos subsides and Saul exits the scene. *Today's Core Virtue discussed: Peace.*

Read 1 Samuel 31

1. How bad was Saul's situation (vv. 1-3)? What command did Saul give to his armor bearer (v. 4)? What two reasons does he give for this request? What actually transpired (vv. 4-5)?
2. How does Saul's second request for death (v. 9) expose the hypocrisy of his first request (v. 4)? What was his real rationale for assisted suicide? How was Saul eventually dishonored in death (vv. 7-10)?
3. How did the men of Jabesh Gilead pay tribute to Saul (vv. 11-13)? Why did these men risk their lives to honor their dead king (cf. 11:1-11; 2 Sam. 2:4-7)?
4. What epitaph is given by the Chronicler to describe the reason for Saul's death (1 Chron. 10:13-14)?
5. Why did Israel suffer for Saul's mistakes (vv. 1, 6-7; cf. 12:13-25)? Conversely, why is Godly leadership so important and how does it affect others?
6. As you review our study of 1 Samuel, what comes to mind regarding God's character and desires for His followers? What examples of Saul and David impact you? Why?

PRAYER TO THE POINT: Thank God for his leadership and guidance. Pray for steadfastness in faith to follow God all the days of your life.



As we come to the end of 1 Samuel and begin to reflect back on the journey so far, one thing quickly becomes evident: This has been a roller coaster of emotions! Victory and defeat, obedience and rebellion, faithfulness and waywardness: we've seen it all. 1 Samuel began with scenes from God's temple, but it will end with scenes from the temples of Israel's pagan enemies.

How did things deteriorate to this point? Way back in chapter 8, Israel begged Samuel for a king so that they could, "be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and go out before us and fight our battles" (8:20). As 1 Samuel comes to a close, we see the ramifications of this request for an earthly king to lead them instead of the true heavenly King. How has this turned out for the Israelites? Their king is dead and the Philistines have overtaken their towns. Unfortunately for them, the Israelites have gotten what they asked for.