

humility

positioned for greatness

**Please hold your communion elements
until the end of the service.*

1 Samuel 15:9 Saul and the army spared Agag and the best of the sheep and cattle, the fat calves and lambs—everything that was good. These they were unwilling to destroy completely, but everything that was despised and weak they totally destroyed.

Genesis 3:6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

SUBMISSION TO GOD

1. Sin is the failure to _____ submit to God's authority and plan.

1 John 3:4 Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.

Galatians 5:16-18 So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

James 4:17 If anyone, then, knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, it is sin for them.

2. God established boundaries to _____ us not constrain us.

1 Peter 5:6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

James 4:7-8 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

1 Samuel 15:15 Saul answered, "The soldiers brought them from the Amalekites; they spared the best of the sheep and cattle to sacrifice to the Lord your God, but we totally destroyed the rest."

1 Samuel 15:17-19 Samuel said, "Although you were once small in your own eyes, did you not become the head of the tribes of Israel? The Lord anointed you king over Israel. ¹⁸ And he sent you on a mission, saying, 'Go and completely destroy those wicked people, the Amalekites; wage war against them until you have wiped them out.' ¹⁹ Why did you not obey the Lord? Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the Lord?"

3. A good thing doesn't mean it is a _____

_____.

1 Samuel 15:20 ²⁰ "But I did obey the Lord," Saul said. "I went on the mission the Lord assigned me. I completely destroyed the Amalekites and brought back Agag their king."

4. The Deception: _____ obedience is good enough.

1 Samuel 15:21 ²¹ The soldiers took sheep and cattle from the plunder, the best of what was devoted to God, in order to sacrifice them to the Lord your God at Gilgal.

5. We tend to justify our actions by _____ to others versus obedience to Christ.

1 Samuel 15: 22-23 But Samuel replied: "Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. ²³ For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king."

6. The submission of our _____ to God is more important than our religious practices.

MSG: Do you think all God wants are sacrifices— empty rituals just for show? He wants you to listen to him! Plain listening is the thing, not staging a lavish religious production. Not doing what God tells you is far worse than fooling around in the occult. Getting self-important around God is far worse than making deals with your dead ancestors. Because you said No to God's command, he says No to your kingship.

ERV: Being stubborn and doing what you want is like the sin of worshiping idols.

1 Samuel 15:23-26 Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has rejected you as king. ²⁴ Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned. I violated the Lord's command and your instructions. I was afraid of the men and so I gave in to them. ²⁵ Now I beg you, forgive my sin and come back with me, so that I may worship the Lord." ²⁶ But Samuel said to him, "I will not go back with you. You have rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you as king over Israel!"

LIVING IT OUT LOUD

Begin each day with a declaration of your faith:

"Today I surrender my will to you, God. I declare the Lordship of Jesus Christ over my life. I submit my will, my desires and my wants to you God. I choose to follow your plan for my life today. Lead me, guide me and teach me by your Holy Spirit who lives in me.

I renounce temptation and sin before it ever approaches me. I reject the ways of this world and I choose to submit to God and resist the devil. I am God's child. His grace empowers me to live like Him. I will talk, walk, act, give and respond like He would because His nature abides in me and I'm in Him. I declare Jesus is Lord of my life today!"

All scriptures are from the NIV translation unless otherwise noted.

THRIVE

The passage of scripture we are studying this week is Luke 2:1-20.

To be added to a group email us at thrive@rockfamilychurch.com.

- Woodmen Campus - Wednesday @ 6:45p
- Woodmen Campus (Women) - Tuesday @ 9:30a
- South Campus – Tuesday @ 6:45p