



SAMUEL

KINGS & COVENANTS

MESSAGE NOTES & DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK 5 – RELATIONSHIP & REJECTION

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

1 Samuel 13:1-14; 15:1-35; John 14:15

- God desires _____, not _____
- Relationship _____ a _____ heart
- Relationship _____
- _____ relationship
- _____ - _____ obedience is _____ to _____ -
_____ obedience

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Why is God more concerned with our relationship than our religious actions?
2. What does this reveal about the difference between outward religion and inward devotion?
3. Is there a time in your life when you prioritized religious activity over relational obedience?
4. Why is repentance essential to a growing relationship with God?
5. What does Saul's response to Samuel reveal about the state of his heart?
6. How does pride hinder true repentance?
7. What are the signs of a genuinely repentant heart in contrast to mere regret or image-saving excuses?
8. Why does God say obedience is better than sacrifice?
9. How can even religious rituals become a substitute for true obedience?
10. What modern equivalents might we offer God in place of obedience? Are there areas where you justify disobedience with "good" intentions or religious activity?
11. Why is rebellion so destructive to our relationship with God?
12. What does God equate rebellion and arrogance with in this passage?
13. How do we sometimes minimize our own rebellion?
14. How can rebellion be subtle in our own lives—masked as independence, control, or "wisdom"?
15. How does love change the way we view obedience?
16. What's the difference between obeying because we have to versus because we want to?
17. How can we cultivate hearts that obey out of affection for God?
18. What motivates your obedience to God—guilt, fear, pride, or love?
19. Where in your life is God calling you to deeper relational obedience?
20. What steps can you take this week to move from ritual to relationship?
21. Is there an area where you need to repent, not just apologize?