

## WEEK

1

**Welcome & Open with a Brief Prayer**

**Icebreaker**

**Scripture for the Week (Please read it to the group):**

"But the people refused to listen to Samuel's warning. 'Even so, we still want a king,' they said."  
(NLT)

**Overview:** This week's sermon focused on I Samuel 8-10 and 13. In these chapters the people were unhappy with Samuel's leadership as the high priest of Israel. They asked for a king to rule them. Samuel knew that an earthly king wasn't God's desire for them because God was Israel's king. However, the people insisted, and God gave them what they asked for and anointed King Saul. Saul didn't obey God but decided to take matters into his own hands. As a result, Samuel said, "But now your kingdom will not endure; the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the LORD's command." (I Samuel 13:14). Saul didn't trust the ways of God or follow His will. Lack of trust in God that He would meet their needs and comparison to other nations led Saul and the Israelites down a path that they hadn't anticipated. Let's watch the video and see about how the Israelites' dilemma and attitude might relate to us today.

**Watch Video**

## QUESTION

1. What's the difference between wants and needs? What are some examples? Do you think distinguishing our needs from our wants is difficult in our culture?

2. Can you think of a time that you received what you needed rather than what you wanted? How did it turn out?

3. As we navigate everyday life, do you think comparison is a problem?

4. Why do you think the Israelites compared themselves to other nations?

5. What makes the comparison trap so dangerous?

6. What steps can you take this week to avoid the comparison trap?

**To Consider:** In the week ahead, notice situations where you might not be trusting God to meet your needs or what situations prompt you to compare yourself to others. Be kind to yourself but ask yourself and ask God why those situations bring up trust issues and comparison.

## PRAYER

Ask for prayer requests. (Remind the group to share only request per person due to time.)  
Closing Prayer—Include those requests in your closing prayer.