

1st Wednesday Slide
Crown Graphic w/email

SHOW A SPLIT SCREEN with 2 Headers/Categories:

LIFE STUFF: under this show images or symbols for work, family, bills,

FUN STUFF: under this show images or symbols for fun ... *Netflix, sports, vacation/beach*

I Samuel 11:1

Nahash the Ammonite came up and laid siege to Jabesh-gilead. All the men of Jabesh said to him, "Make a **treaty** with us, and we will serve you."

Map of Saul's Kingdom → *be sure this is clear on screen*

<https://i.pinimg.com/736x/85/f3/97/85f397b3d889d7821fe07c2965b9e2f6--samuel-bible--samuel.jpg>

{same slide; come up one at a time}

The People's Response:

- **Compromise over Covenant**
- **Prevent something bad vs. Trust God's promises**

I Samuel 11:2

Nahash the Ammonite replied, "I'll make one with you on this condition: that I gouge out everyone's right eye and **humiliate all Israel.**"

I Samuel 11:3-5

"Don't do anything to us for seven days," the elders of Jabesh said to him, "and let us send messengers throughout the territory of Israel. If no one **saves** us, we will surrender to you." When the messengers came to Gibeah, Saul's hometown, and told the terms to the people, all wept aloud. Just then **Saul** was coming in from the field behind his oxen. "**What's the matter** with the people? Why are they weeping?" Saul inquired, and they repeated to him the words of the men from Jabesh.

I Samuel 11:6

When Saul heard these words, the **Spirit of God** suddenly came powerfully (=took control) on him, and his anger burned furiously ...

A life led by the Spirit of God

Saul's **affections** matched God's **ambitions**.

John 16:14a

He will **glorify Me** ...

Saul is controlled by God Himself.

Ephesians 5:16b-18

... the days are **evil**. So don't be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. And don't get drunk with **wine**, which leads to reckless living, but **be filled by the Spirit** ...

What else can we be **controlled** by ...?

- **Fear**
- **Pride & Ego**
- **Others**
- **Comfort**

2 Timothy 1:6-8

Therefore, I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is in you ... For God has not given us a spirit of **fear**, but one of power, love, and sound judgment. So don't be **ashamed** of the testimony about our Lord, or of me his prisoner. Instead, share in **suffering** for the gospel, relying on the **power of God**.

The Battle

The **self-driven** life vs. the **Spirit-led** life

1 Samuel 11:7-11

He took a team of oxen, cut them in pieces, and sent them throughout the territory of Israel by messengers who said, "This is what will be done to the ox of anyone who doesn't march behind Saul and Samuel." As a result, the **terror of the Lord** fell on the people, and they went out **united**. Saul counted them at Bezek. There were three hundred thousand Israelites and thirty thousand men from Judah. He told the messengers who had come, "Tell this to the men of Jabesh-gilead: '**Deliverance will be yours** tomorrow by the time the sun is hot.'" So the messengers told the men of Jabesh, and they **rejoiced**. Then the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, "Tomorrow we will come out, and you can do whatever you want to us." The next day Saul organized the troops into three divisions. During the morning watch, they invaded the Ammonite camp and slaughtered them until the heat of the day. There were survivors, but they were so scattered that no two of them were left together.

See the battle lines:

External: Ammonites; strategy; organization; Philistines

Internal: fear; insecurity; uncertain/unfamiliar

{one slide; same time}

God will put more on us than we can handle.

God will ask us to do what is beyond our natural ability to do.

The self-driven life vs. the Spirit-led life

God is not looking for proven or talented people;

God fills empty and sensitive people.

{one slide}

Being controlled by the Spirit means we are free.

2 Corinthians 3:17

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

{same slide; come up one at a time}

God is the freest Being.

God cannot do anything He wants.

God is free to be exactly Who He is forever.

John 3:30

He must increase, but I must decrease.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

1 Samuel 11:12-13

Afterward, the people said to Samuel, "Who said that Saul should not reign over us? Give us those men so we can kill them!" {see 10:27} But Saul ordered, "No one will be executed this day, for today the Lord has provided deliverance in Israel."

The self-driven life vs. the Spirit-led life

I Samuel 11:14-15

Then Samuel said to the people, "Come, let's go to Gilgal, so we can renew the kingship there." So all the people went to Gilgal, and there in the Lord's presence they made Saul king. There they sacrificed fellowship offerings in the Lord's presence, and Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.