

## Series Graphic & email

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**What is God's role?**

**What is our role?**

### **Isaiah 64:4**

For since the world began, no ear has heard and no eye has seen a God like you, who **works** for those who wait for Him!

### **Psalms 127:1**

Unless the Lord builds a house, its builders labor over it in vain; unless the Lord watches over a city, the watchman stays alert in vain.

{one slide}

### **OPTION A:**

**God does everything, we do nothing.**

*Let go and let God ...*

*God's going do what God's going do ...*

*God could & would never use someone like me ...*

*{one slide}*

**OPTION B:**

**God does nothing, we do everything.**

*{one slide}*

**BIBLICAL:**

**God's work is ultimate and decisive but He gives us the dignity & responsibility of responding to His work and joining Him meaningfully in it.**

**Proverbs 21:30-31**

There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the Lord.  
The horse is **made ready** for the day of battle, but **victory rests with the Lord.**

**I Samuel 8:22a**

"Listen to them," the Lord told Samuel. "Appoint a king for them."

**God is always working.**

**He works for and with and through what He's got → Us!!**

**I Samuel 9:1-4**

There was a prominent man of Benjamin named Kish ... son of a Benjaminite. He had a son named **Saul**, an impressive young man. There was no one more impressive among the Israelites than he. He stood a head taller than anyone else.

One day **the donkeys** of Saul's father Kish wandered off. Kish said to his son Saul, "Take one of the servants with you and go look for the donkeys." Saul and his servant went through the hill country ... but they didn't find them ... they went through the Benjaminite region but still didn't find them.

**I Samuel 9:16**

"At this time tomorrow I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin. **Anoint** him ruler over my people Israel. He will save them from the Philistines because I have seen the affliction of my people, for their cry has come to Me."

**Even through a sinful act, God is working compassionately and graciously with, for and through people.**

**How will God connect Saul to Samuel → Donkeys = Providence**

### I Samuel 9:5

When they came to the land of Zuph, Saul said to the servant who was with him, “Come on, let’s go back, or my father will stop worrying about the donkeys and start worrying about us.”

### I Samuel 9:6

“Look,” the servant said, “there’s a man of God in this city who is highly respected; everything he says is sure to come true. Let’s go there now. Maybe he’ll tell us which way we should go ... Formerly in Israel, a man who was going to inquire of God would say, “Come, let’s go to the seer,” for the prophet of today was formerly called the seer.

**1) Our Responsibility: Seek the Lord IN this ... because THIS is FROM Him Who is always working.**

### I Samuel 9:14-17

So they went up toward the city. Saul and his servant were entering the city when they saw Samuel coming toward them on his way to the high place. Now the day before Saul’s arrival, the Lord had informed Samuel, “At this time tomorrow I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin. Anoint him ruler over my people Israel ... When Samuel saw Saul, the Lord told him, “Here is the man I told you about; he will govern My people.”

**Hebrew word for “ruler” is not the Hebrew word for “king.” Why?**

### BIBLICAL:

**God’s work is ultimate and decisive but He gives us the dignity & responsibility of responding to His work and joining Him meaningfully in it.**

### I Samuel 9:18-21

Saul approached Samuel in the city gate and asked, “Would you please tell me where the seer’s house is?” “I am the seer,” Samuel answered. “Go up ahead of me to the high place and eat with me today. When I send you off in the morning, I’ll tell you everything that’s in your heart. As for the donkeys that wandered away from you three days ago, don’t worry about them because they’ve been found. And who does all Israel desire but you and all your father’s family?”

Saul responded, “Am I not a Benjaminite from the smallest of Israel’s tribes and isn’t my clan the least important of all the clans of the Benjaminite tribe? So why have you said something like this to me?”

**2) Our Responsibility: Do not disqualify ourselves by saying “No” to God’s invitation or by asking “Who me?”**

### I Samuel 9:22-10:1

- Samuel puts Saul in place of honor during a banquet but no one knows why.
- Samuel privately anoints Saul as ruler over Israel
- \*God's work: sometimes in secret, sometimes only a few "see" it ... but ...

### I Samuel 10:1

Samuel took the flask of oil, poured it out on Saul's head, kissed him, and said, "Hasn't the Lord anointed you **ruler** over **His inheritance**?"

### Matthew 16:18

... upon this rock I will **build My church**, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.

### Ephesians 4:11-14

Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do [ministry] and **build up the church**, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

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### I Samuel 10:2-5

#### **3 Confirmations:**

- Donkeys found at Rachel's tomb
- 3 men → give Saul bread
- Prophets & Song → Holy Spirit

### I Samuel 10:5b-7

... When you arrive at the city, you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place prophesying. They will be preceded by harps, tambourines, flutes, and lyres. **The Spirit of the Lord will come powerfully on you**, you will prophesy with them, and you will be transformed. When these signs have happened to you, **do** whatever your circumstances require because God is **with** you.

### I Samuel 10:9-13

When Saul turned to leave Samuel, God **changed his heart**, and all the signs came about that day. When Saul and his servant arrived at Gibeah, a group of prophets met him. Then the **Spirit of God** came powerfully on him, and he prophesied along with them. Everyone who knew him previously and saw him prophesy with the prophets asked each other, "**What has happened** to the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?" ... As a result, "Is Saul also among the prophets?" became a popular saying. Then Saul finished prophesying and went to the high place.

### **3) Our Responsibility: Receive the Holy Spirit ...**

*{Come up one at a time; all same slide ...}*

#### **5 Truths About the Holy Spirit:**

- a) **The Spirit's presence is often marked by joy, song, & worship**
- b) **The Spirit works with the Word of God (vs. *resisting*)**
- c) **The Spirit changes our character, our heart (vs. *grieving*)**
- d) **The Spirit works with gifts & power (vs. *quenching*)**
- e) **The Spirit's fullness is not continual (Ephesians 5:18)**

#### **I Samuel 10:14-16**

Saul's uncle asked him and his servant, "Where did you go?" "To look for the donkeys," Saul answered. "When we saw they weren't there, we went to Samuel." "Tell me," Saul's uncle asked, "what did Samuel say to you?" Saul told him, "He assured us the donkeys had been found." However, Saul **did not tell him** what Samuel had said about the matter of kingship.

#### **I Samuel 10:(17-18); 19-22**

But today you have rejected your God, who saves you from all your troubles and afflictions. You said to him, 'You must set a king over us.' Now therefore present yourselves before the Lord by your tribes and clans." Samuel had all the tribes of Israel come forward, and the tribe of Benjamin was selected. Then he had the tribe of Benjamin come forward by its clans, and the Matrite clan was selected. Finally, Saul son of Kish was selected. But when they searched for him, they **could not find him**. They again inquired of the Lord, "Has the man come here yet?" The Lord replied, "There he is, **hidden** among the supplies."

**4) Our Responsibility: Choose **faith over fear** ... faith over insecurity ... faith over ego ... faith over everything else.**

#### **I Samuel 10:23-27**

They ran and got him from there. When he stood among the people, he stood a head taller than anyone else. Samuel said to all the people, "Do you see the one the Lord has chosen? There is no one like him among the entire population." And all the people shouted, "Long live the king!" Samuel proclaimed to the people the rights of kingship. He wrote them on a scroll, which he placed in the presence of the Lord. Then Samuel sent all the people home. Saul also went to his home in Gibeah, and brave men whose **hearts God had touched** went with him. But some wicked men said, "How can this guy save us?" They despised him and did not bring him a gift, but Saul said nothing.

**Choose faith ... over the other voices.**

**Ephesians 4:12**

... to equip God's people to do [ministry] and **build up the church**, the body of Christ.

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**Mark 10:45**

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but **to serve**, and to give His life as a **ransom** for many."