

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
1 Thess. 5:23

I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in my heart and mind. I will firmly establish his priestly house, and they will minister before my anointed one always.  
1 Samuel 2:35

# FAITHFUL MEN

1 Samuel 28

WEEK #: 21

I am glad we can learn some valuable lessons at King Saul's expense rather than our own. 1 Samuel 28 highlights some key truths.

1. You know you are in trouble when you start disguising yourself. If you have to wear a mask-you are headed in the wrong direction. Bank robbers and people who rob convenience stores wear masks. You have no business wearing a mask that hides who you really are. People who wear masks "do time". You are called to be free not emotionally, relationally or spiritually incarcerated. (Galatians 5:1). Cease and desist trying to be someone who you are not and do not allow yourself to be in places that are not meant for you. If you have to pretend too much too often something is wrong-get that fixed! If this is you...Ask for help-you are headed in the wrong direction.
2. You know you are in trouble when you start looking for answers in things and from people that are dead. Death has no part of our lives. Dead things and dead people have no insight for you and me. We are people who look to the Author of Life, and life more abundantly for insight and direction.
3. Dead things provide nothing living. Revealing images of women breed the stench of death in a man's life. Every revealing image brings one nearer to deadness, insensitivity, apathy and spiritual dullness. Dead idols, dead works, and dead religion have nothing of value to offer us. They only have the appearance of life.
4. We do not worship a dead God, but One who overcame death, hell and the grave.
5. I have heard it said that when the Celtics used to play on their old parquet floor, the home team was aware of the dead spots on the floor. They avoided the dead spots but their opponents did not. People who avoid death win more often.
6. I encourage you to look for disguises and dead things in your life and eradicate them this week as you journal/ You are a champion! Make great choices and LIVE!

Pastor Gary