

How Do I Start?

Welcome to **day 9** of our 21 days of prayer and fasting! It's time for us to change our mindset. Last week the focus was on each of us individually. Now it's time to start thinking and praying **organizationally**. It's time to seek how God is leading our **church** and not just us as the individual members. Today we read about two transitions in leadership. Samuel to Saul and Saul to David. Prophet to king. King to shepherd. Samuel's time in leadership came to a natural conclusion because of age. This left the people to fill the void he left behind. So what did they do? They found a man who looked like a king. He came from a prominent family and "stood head and shoulders above" everyone else. In our terms, his resume was spectacular. They hired him on the spot. But he was not faithful to God. In 1 Samuel 16:7 God says, "don't judge by appearance... The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them... The Lord looks at the heart." As you think about the history of our church we often talk about different "eras" of time. Those eras are usually defined by the staff, and key lay leaders serving at that particular point. Some of those eras bring fond memories, others... not so much. What kind of era would you like to see in the coming years? What kind of leadership do we need to see that come true? 1 Samuel 16:13 says "the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David." That's who we need! Men and women who know how to work together to discern the will of God and have the courage to follow through with obedience.

Things to pray about today:

1. Lord, call out the leaders we need to lead us into a relationship with You and keep us focused on Your will.
2. God, strengthen the Godly leaders we have. Grant them courage, wisdom, and discernment.

Today's Reading - 1 Samuel 7-9, 15-17

Read the passage for today and write down anything that stood out to you. God primarily speaks through His word, so, if something "jumped off the page" that was probably God revealing something to you or to our church family. Write it down!

Pray

Write out your prayer. Or at least the main points. I like to do this section in a different color.

Listen

Take time to listen to what God is saying to you. Check your understanding against the truth of His word. He will never tell you something that contradicts His word. Be sure to listen throughout the day even after you leave the sanctuary. As He speaks, write it down! I like to use a third color for this part

Date: _____

What's on my mind?

Prayer

Today's Scripture

Listen