

# Where Is God When We Hurt?

## Session 6 ~ When Impatience Drives Our Decisions

*1 Samuel 8:19-22; 10:8; 13:8-14; 15:22*

The Israelites begged the prophet, Samuel, for a king like other nations, one who would lead them into battle. But God’s plan for Israelite kingship was unique: the LORD would be the Great King with the human king as vice-regent and the prophet as God’s spokesman. The people wanted God’s power but not his control. Waiting on God was difficult, and King Saul, to his detriment, let his impatience drive his decisions.

**Samuel instructed Saul to wait seven days in Gilgal until the prophet came to offer pre-battle sacrifices.**

But when Samuel didn’t arrive at the expected time, Saul panicked.

Yet, God works while we wait:

- To \_\_\_\_\_
- To \_\_\_\_\_
- To \_\_\_\_\_

Rather than wait for Samuel, Saul \_\_\_\_\_.

**Because \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ seemed too expensive.**

Saul’s disobedience cost him his \_\_\_\_\_ and his \_\_\_\_\_.

Instead, God sought out a man \_\_\_\_\_,

which can mean “a man of God’s choosing.”

Waiting on God:

- Reveals \_\_\_\_\_
- Realigns \_\_\_\_\_
- Renovates \_\_\_\_\_
- Renews \_\_\_\_\_

God \_\_\_\_\_ Saul because Saul \_\_\_\_\_ God.

We can win our battles with impatience if we:

1. Purge \_\_\_\_\_
2. Pursue \_\_\_\_\_
3. Practice \_\_\_\_\_
4. Persevere \_\_\_\_\_

### **Discussion Questions**

1. In what situations do you struggle with impatience? Which is more difficult—short-term or long-term patience? Describe your most effective coping strategies.
2. Have you ever felt patience and obedience to God were too expensive? If so, what did you do instead? How might God have honored patient obedience?
3. Why is patiently waiting on God so challenging? What potential consequences do we face if we rush ahead of him? Name ways we can support one another as we wait.
4. What are you waiting for today? Share how your group can pray for you. Then close by praying for each other.