LESSONS THIS QUARTER
1) 5 June 2016.....................................1Samuel 1-2..............................Answered
2) 12 June..........................................1Samuel 3-4...............................Called
3) 19 June..........................................1Samuel 5-7...............................Worthy
4) 26 June..........................................1Samuel 8-11...........................King?
5) 3 July.............................................1Samuel 12-14..........................Frightened
6) 10 July..........................................1Samuel 15..................................Judged
7) 17 July..........................................1Samuel 16..................................Anointed
8) 24 July..........................................1Samuel 17..................................Delivered
9) 31 July..........................................1Samuel 18-21.........................Piousful
10) 7 August......................................1Samuel 22-24.......................Blinded
11) 14 August.....................................1Samuel 25.................................Protected
12) 21 August......................................1Samuel 26-29.......................Respect
13) 28 August.....................................1Samuel 30-31..........................Victory

INTRODUCTION
- God tells Samuel to anoint another (David) who would eventually replace Saul. Providentially, David ends up working at the palace as a musician to soothe King Saul’s tormented spirit.

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| 1Samuel 16:1-5 | **Absolute Power Corrupts Absolutely**
- Lord Acton in 1887 stated this: “Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men.” ... How true is this?
- Early in Saul’s life, he protested to Samuel that he was not worthy to be king (9:21)
- When some wanted to kill Saul’s political opponents, Saul preserved their lives
- v2. Now Saul is determined to stay in power, even if it means killing, Samuel, since only Samuel would have God’s authority to anoint a new king
- v3. Why the subterfuge or deception about the sacrifice? Can we lie or deceive and it not be a sin?

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| When is Lying OK | **Are there biblical principles to justify lying and using “unconventional” or deceptive means?**
- There are principles in Scripture where lying or withholding the truth seems justified to preserve the lives of innocent victims
- Abraham and Isaac both lied about their wives being their sisters while in hostile territory, and they both walked away blessed......Gen 19, 20, 26
- Hebrew midwives lied to Pharaoh and reaped blessings from God..............Exodus 1: 15-21
- Rahab lied about the 2 spies, and she saved her family and became an ancestor of Jesus .... Josh 2
- King David feigned insanity to protect his life – and was successful.................1Samuel 21:13
- **More Thots.** Jesus says we need to be wise as serpents but gentle as doves..............Mat 10:16
- Therefore, it seems OK to conceal the truth for a higher purpose – not to harm, not to achieve gain, not for convenience sake – but to protect innocent lives from evil intent

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| 16:6-13 | **God Looks Inside – Man Looks Outside**
- David is the least, but is anointed to be great
- Even David’s own father did not see the potential in his youngest boy being something great
- What characteristics did God see in David?
  □ His good looks? □ His discipline and hard work tendency and protecting the sheep by himself?
  □ His honesty? □ His inclination toward God?
- **v13. The Spirit of the Lord came upon David. How was this evident? Could David do no wrong?**

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**Passage**

- An Evil Spirit from the Lord Troubles Saul
  - But, doesn’t the Bible state that the Lord tempts no man (James 1:13)? So why would God either directly torment Saul or indirectly have Satan torment him?
  - **Consider this.** There are other principles at work
    - Saul willfully moved away from God, so he incurred the consequences, some natural, others God-invoked:
      1. He reaped what he sowed (trouble)
      2. Rebellion causes distress, troubled spirit, anxious heart.................................Lam 1:20
      3. God gives a sound mind (2Tim 1:7) and “perfect peace” when one’s mind stays on Him.. Isa 26:3
  - **v16. Music soothes the soul.** No Christian rock or contemporary music was played to be sure
    - Music’s ability to stir up emotions (good or bad), motivate men for battle, give a migraine to someone, or to calm the soul is no secret
    - How else does music influence people?

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS**
- If you are in a position with power, don’t let it go to your head. Remember – Everyone is replaceable
- If God promotes you like David, be wise, watch, and remain faithful, and expect Goliath to be around the corner
  - In other words, abide your time, and do not rush things

**NEXT WEEK: 1Samuel 17.** David would not have been the great man he was without confronting and conquering Goliath. Sometimes God puts a Goliath in our path not to harm us, but to demonstrate to us and others the abilities God has given us and to eventually promote us