



Canyon Bible Church

Suggested Sermon Discussion Questions

Joshua 11:6-23 / Isaiah 6:8-15 / 1 Samuel 15

“The Myth of the Small Sin”

The scriptures for the sermon recounted two separate instances where God commanded and empowered genocide.

Was God justified in such a violent lethal response?

What does his action in both these instances reveal about his character?

Do you feel any temptation to soften or explain his actions?

How would you explain what God did there to an unbeliever?

The principle of telling the truth has been taught us over and over again. What struggles are there and what differences are there in speaking the truth to others and speaking the truth to yourself? Are you more susceptible to being fooled by others or fooling yourself?

Just for fun, what do you suppose happened to the sheep and oxen and fatted calves that bleated in Samuel's ears? Did they survive?

The 9 lessons we drew from Saul's speech to Samuel were:

1. We know what God wants and what he doesn't, don't claim otherwise.
2. When you recognize a lie or rationalization, stop! Kill it quickly.
3. Don't spin, tell the whole, unvarnished truth.
4. Intentions don't count, it's not how you start, it's how you finish.
5. If God says, "Do X," anything less than X is not obedience, it's disobedience.
6. Your other obedience does not outweigh the one sin you're dealing with now.
7. When confronted with your sin, don't blame somebody else.
8. Never claim you don't have the power to stop.
9. Don't try to dress up or spiritualize your sin. Don't put lipstick on a pig.

Which of these is the most challenging for you? Why?