



Mariner's **DISCOVERY Church**

OurMDC.org
(925) 354-1096
1641 Bixler Road,
Discovery Bay
California 94505

Program for Sunday, September 27, 2026.

Please welcome the worship music team this week!

Call to Worship: *Good God Almighty*
Confidence

Announcements for Sunday 9/27/2026

Thanks for joining our Worship Service this Sunday

- **The Pool is available for your use. You can signup in the carport. During the week, please contact the office at 925-354-1096 to make a reservation. Since we don't have a life guard on duty a liability waiver form will need to be filled out and signed.**
- **If you have any prayer requests, please fill out a Connect Envelope and place it in the wooden offering boxes in the back. Also, during the week you can email requests at: PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org**
- **PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org**

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Mariner's Discovery Church

P.O. Box 1667

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Adoration *Come As You Are*

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 8, 9, 10

Message: *The king Israel wanted. The king God provided.*

Affirmation: *No Fear*

Close of Worship Service, Fellowship continues

1 Samuel 8:1–10:27 NASB 1995 Selected Scriptures

8:1 And it came about when Samuel was old that he appointed his sons judges over Israel.

3 His sons, however, did not walk in his ways, but turned aside after dishonest gain and took bribes and perverted justice.

4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah;

6 But the thing was displeasing in the sight of Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” And Samuel prayed to the LORD.

7 The LORD said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them.

8 “Like all the deeds which they have done since the day that I brought them up from Egypt even to this day—in that they have forsaken Me and served other gods—so they are doing to you also.

9 “Now then, listen to their voice; however, you shall solemnly warn them and tell them of the procedure of the king who will reign over them.”

19 Nevertheless, the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel, and they said, “No, but there shall be a king over us,

20 that we also may be like all the nations, that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.”

22 The LORD said to Samuel, “Listen to their voice and appoint them a king.” So Samuel said to the men of Israel, “Go every man to his city.”

9:1 Now there was a man of Benjamin whose name was Kish the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Becorath, the son of Aphiah, the son of a Benjamite, a mighty man of valor.

2 He had a son whose name was Saul, a choice and handsome man, and there was not a more handsome person than he among the sons of Israel; from his shoulders and up he was taller than any of the people.

3 Now the donkeys of Kish, Saul’s father, were lost. So Kish said to his son Saul, “Take now with you one of the servants, and arise, go search for the donkeys.”

15 Now a day before Saul’s coming, the LORD had revealed this to Samuel saying,

16 “About this time tomorrow I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be prince over My people Israel; and he will deliver My people from the hand of the Philistines. For I have regarded My people, because their cry has come to Me.”

17 When Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said to him, “Behold, the man of whom I spoke to you! This one shall rule over My people.”

20 “As for your donkeys which were lost three days ago, do not set your mind on them, for they have been found. And for whom is all that is desirable in Israel? Is it not for you and for all your father’s household?”

24b So Saul ate with Samuel that day.

25 When they came down from the high place into the city, Samuel spoke with Saul on the roof.

10:1 Then Samuel took the flask of oil, poured it on his head, kissed him and said, “Has not the LORD anointed you a ruler over His inheritance?

6 “Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you mightily, and you shall prophesy with them and be changed into another man.

7 “It shall be when these signs come to you, do for yourself what the occasion requires, for God is with you.

9 Then it happened when he turned his back to leave Samuel, God changed his heart; and all those signs came about on that day.

14 Now Saul's uncle said to him and his servant, "Where did you go?" And he said, "To look for the donkeys. When we saw that they could not be found, we went to Samuel."

15 Saul's uncle said, "Please tell me what Samuel said to you."

16 So Saul said to his uncle, "He told us plainly that the donkeys had been found." But he did not tell him about the matter of the kingdom which Samuel had mentioned.

17 Thereafter Samuel called the people together to the LORD at Mizpah;

19 "But you have today rejected your God, who delivers you from all your calamities and your distresses; yet you have said, 'No, but set a king over us!' Now therefore, present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes and by your clans."

20 Thus Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel near, and the tribe of Benjamin was taken by lot.

21 Then he brought the tribe of Benjamin near by its families, and the Matrite family was taken. And Saul the son of Kish was taken; but when they looked for him, he could not be found.

22 Therefore they inquired further of the LORD, "Has the man come here yet?" So the LORD said, "Behold, he is hiding himself by the baggage."

23 So they ran and took him from there, and when he stood among the people, he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders upward.

24 Samuel said to all the people, "Do you see him whom the LORD has chosen? Surely there is no one like him among all the people." So all the people shouted and said, "Long live the king!"

25 Then Samuel told the people the ordinances of the kingdom, and wrote them in the book and placed it before the LORD. And Samuel sent all the people away, each one to his house.

Devotional: Matthew 9:9-13; Then it happened that as Jesus was reclining at the table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were dining with Jesus and His disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why is your Teacher eating with the tax collectors and sinners?" But when Jesus heard this, He said, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. "But go and learn what this means: 'I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE,' for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Theological themes and takeaways

- Universal sin: every person needs Christ.
- Divine mercy: genuine devotion to God changes our actions.
- Repentance: Jesus calls sinners. Grace empowers a new life.
- Christ's authority acts and speaks as the physician of souls.
- Jesus is the promised Messiah and King.
- The purpose of Jesus' mission is to seek and save the lost.
- Gospel inclusion: The kingdom is intended to reach those that are despised and morally broken people.
- Jesus creates and empowers a new people. The church is for the people who become a new family because they have been redeemed by Jesus Christ.

What are our takeaways?

- Come to Jesus honestly.
- Live as a repentant believer.
- Always remember your need for mercy, grace, and truth.

Praise God that He loves us enough to accept us as we are and loves us too much to leave us unchanged!

When God speaks, what does it mean to listen?

Six people carry the story (listen or don't listen).

- **Hannah:** hears God and obeys fully.
- **Peninnah:** a voice that competes with God's, not aligned with Him.
- **Elkanah :** sincere but only partially attuned.
- **Eli :** a mixed case: dulled perception, late submission, chronic passivity.
- Eli's sons; **Hophni, Phinehas:** hear the word and refuse it outright
- **Samuel:** the paradigm listener.
- The pattern across all six: **those who bring themselves honestly before God and act on His word** (Hannah, Samuel) are contrasted with **those who hear imperfectly or not at all** (Peninnah, Elkanah's partial support, Eli's delayed submission, and his sons' outright refusal).

When God speaks, what does it mean to listen?

- Listening begins with surrender.
- Listening means honoring God above all.
- Listening ends in Whole-hearted response.

Theological implications:

- **God is sovereign over life and circumstances.** Hannah's barrenness was not an accident, and her answered prayer was not luck.
- **Prayer is honest, dependent, and expectant.** God invites us to pour out the soul and to leave the burden with Him.
- **Vows and dedication matter to God.** What we promise God, God expects to be kept.
- **God defines worship and worshipers do not.** To handle holy things casually is to despise God.
- **God honors those who honor Him and judges those who despise Him.**
- **God takes the initiative in revelation.**). Samuel did not seek a word. God came and stood.
- **Hearing and obeying belong together.** Any listening that stops at the ear is not the kind Scripture commends.
- **Leaders and parents bear special accountability.** Eli's tolerance was itself a sin.
- **Sovereignty and responsibility both stand.** God's decree did not remove the sons' guilt, since they "would not listen."
- **Christ is the fulfillment.** He is the Anointed One; the faithful Priest; the Prophet greater than Samuel; and the perfectly obedient Son.

Takeaways:

- Take your burdens to God first.
- Keep promises to God.
- Practice a "returning" theology.
- Guard holy things.
- Confront sin, and do not merely comment on it.
- Resist a "famine of hearing."
- Respond in full obedience.
- Prize everyone who is faithful.

When God speaks, what does it mean to obey?

1. Obedience is surrender to God (Hannah): Pour out your heart, believe the Word of God before you see His hand, and be willing to give back what God has given.
2. Obedience is honoring God (Samuel): Revere the holiness of God. Refuse to treat the things of God as ours. Put God ahead of comfort, family, and reputation.
3. Obedience of God is response (Samuel): Tell God, "Speak," Listen, does what God says, immediately, fully, even at cost, and it hides nothing.

None of us has done this perfectly, except Jesus Christ.

“Speak, for Your servant is listening.”

Israel demands a king like the nations (1 Samuel 8).

- 1 Samuel 8 through 10 is a hinge moment in Israel’s redemptive history: transitioning from the era of judges to the era of kings.
- Samuel, the judge and prophet, is an aging leader.
- Samuel has appointed his sons as judges, who prove to be so corrupt, that their corruption is widespread knowledge (hyperlink: Eli and his sons).
- The elders demand a king (succession from Samuel is not trustworthy).
 - Desire for a king is not wrong, (God anticipated kingship in Deuteronomy 17:14-20) their motive is worldly.
- Samuel is distressed and prays to the LORD. God tells Samuel, that they have not rejected Samuel, they have rejected God as their king.
- God tells Samuel to tell the people what it will cost the people to have a king. “No, there shall be a king over us like all the nations.”
- The LORD responds to Samuel, “Listen to their voice and appoint them a king.
- Teresa of Ávila: “More tears are shed over answered prayers than unanswered ones.”
- Sometimes the most severe judgment of God on a persistently rebellious heart is to simply to give it what it demands.
- One leader was willing to wait on the timing and method of God. The nation of Israel was not.
- Psalm 84: 11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
The LORD gives grace and glory;
No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.
- Is there an area in your life where you have asked God to bless a plan you had already decided up, rather than seeking the guidance of God first?
- Where in your own life are you most tempted to measure faithfulness by comparison to the surrounding culture rather than by God's revealed Word?

God sovereignly prepares and provides a king (1 Samuel 9)

- Saul (a choice, handsome, and tall) will become Israel’s answer to their request.
- Israel wanted a king who looked the part (style over substance).
- The LORD looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7).
- Verses 3-14: Divine providence. Saul’s father’s donkeys wander off. Saul is sent to find them. A servant suggests consulting a seer (prophet). They encounter young women who happen to know where the seer will be. <- None of that appears miraculous. Like an ordinary Tuesday.
- Proverbs 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap,
But its every decision is from the LORD.
- Verses 15-17: The LORD revealed the who and how everything would go down.
- Verses 18-27: A private meeting with Samuel and Saul. Samuel honors Saul before anyone else knows what is happening (dinner with choice meats, seat of honor, speaking with him privately on the rooftop).
- On the miraculous appearing ordinary: often the case, and only recognized in hindsight. Hudson Taylor: God’s work done in God’s way, will never lack God’s supply, but that supply often arrives disguised as the mundane.
- God is not scrambling (nor surprised) in order to respond to Israel’s demand.
- God may tolerate our sinful requests. God may redeem them for His authentic and gracious purposes.
- Sometimes the pattern is private selection before public conformation (see David’s selection in 1 Samuel 16).

- God's most important work in this life happens quietly, unnoticed by everyone else.
- Though every day seems like an ordinary Tuesday, remember that God is never absent from the mundane. Can I trust that the hidden hand of God is at work even when I cannot yet see the outcome?
- Can I be content in this season in my life with whatever hidden work that He is doing in me and through me (before the public confirmation)?
- Can I ask God to redeem a former sinful circumstance in my life, for a gracious purpose of God?

God publicly confirms Saul as king (1 Samuel 10)

- Samuel takes a flask of oil and pours it over Saul's head. "Anointing."
- Samuel promises 3 specific confirming signs that will happen that day.
- Verse 6: The Spirit of the LORD will come upon Saul mightily. Saul will be changed.
 - Old testament: Temporary, task-specific empowering given to judges and kings for the duration of their office.
- Verses 14-16: Saul is evasive when questioned about what happened with Samuel.
 - Humility? Insecurity and fear?
- Verses 17-24: Samuel frames what is really happening, "I brought Israel up from Egypt..., but today you have rejected your God."
- Lot by lot, tribe by tribe, family by family until the lot falls on Saul, who is hiding amongst the baggage.
- Verses 25-27: Samuel writes the ordinances of the kingdom (king's responsibilities before God, accountable to the prophet of God?)
- Principle: spiritual gifting and empowering for a task is not the same thing as personal holiness or persevering faith. Gifting is not the same as godliness.
- The Holy Spirit Who indwells every believer in Christ will never depart (John 14:6-7) and a believer's security does not rest in personal perseverance but in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, who cannot fail.
- The Christian life is measured by the daily hourly dependence upon grace for perseverance, not the intensity of a single experience of grace.
- Have you had an experience of shrinking (hiding in the baggage) back from the call of God about something in your life? What can you do about the next step of faith now?

Theological Implications:

- God is sovereign, ~and~ Humans are responsible.
 - God grants Israel's sinful request, while remaining sovereign in every detail.
- There is a real danger of having a comparison-driven faith.
 - Trusting a surrounding, immersive culture versus divine revelation revealed through the word of God.
- Honoring the outward appearance versus the heart. God's evaluative criteria for leadership are fundamentally different from the world's.
- The provisional empower of the Holy Spirit for office/ activity needs to be distinguished from the New Testament indwelling of every believer.
- The kingship under the authority of the word will not be fulfilled until Jesus Christ is recognized as King of kings.
- God is patient with rebellious people.

You are not alone. God is with you! MDC wants to help. We are here for you.

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