

We Want A King

5-Day Devotional - 1.25.26

Day 1

The King We Already Have

Reading: 1 Samuel 8:1-9; Psalm 95:1-7

Devotional:

Israel possessed something extraordinary—the presence of God Himself as their King. They had His covenant, His protection, and His promises. Yet they looked around and wanted what everyone else had. How often do we do the same? We have direct access to the King of Kings through Jesus Christ, yet we chase after what the world offers. Today, take inventory of what God has already given you. His presence is enough. His promises are sure. Before you ask for more, recognize the divine covering already over your life. God doesn't need to compete with worldly kingdoms—He created them all. Stop comparing your blessings to others and start celebrating the unique calling God has placed on your life.

Reflection:

Where am I tempted to compare my life or calling to others instead of trusting and celebrating the King I already have?

Day 2

The Cost of Getting Your Way

Reading: 1 Samuel 8:10-22; Romans 1:18-25

Devotional:

God warned Israel explicitly about the cost of their demand. Their future king would take their sons, daughters, fields, and freedom. Yet they insisted anyway. Sometimes the most terrifying judgment God can give is permission to have what we want instead of what we need. Sin always has a price tag, but culture hides the receipt. When we persistently demand our way over God's will, He may lovingly allow us to experience the consequences, knowing it will eventually bring us back to Him. What are you demanding from God right now? Is it His will or your way? Before you insist, consider the cost. God's "no" is often His greatest protection.

Reflection:

What am I asking God for right now, and am I willing to surrender it if He knows it will ultimately cost me more than it will bless me?

Day 3

Faith Over Sight

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:1-7; Hebrews 11:1-6

Devotional:

Israel wanted a king they could see, touch, and potentially control. Faith had become uncomfortable. They preferred visible leadership over invisible faithfulness. But faith, by definition, requires trusting what we cannot see. God had proven Himself repeatedly—delivering them from Egypt, parting the Red Sea, providing manna—yet they still craved something tangible. Are you living by faith or by sight? When circumstances become unclear, do you trust God's character or demand visible proof? Faith can be uncomfortable, but it's in that discomfort where we truly experience God's power. Stop reaching for control and start resting in His care. He sees what you cannot see and knows what you do not know.

Reflection:

In what area of my life am I relying more on what I can see and control than on trusting God's unseen faithfulness?

Day 4

Jesus, the Better King

Reading: Luke 22:24-30; Philippians 2:5-11

Devotional:

Israel asked for a king like the nations. God gave them a King for the nations—Jesus Christ. Unlike earthly kings who take from their subjects, Jesus gave everything for His people. He didn't tax us; He paid our debt. He didn't rule by force; He reigned through love. He didn't demand our sons and daughters; He sacrificed Himself for them. This is the King worthy of our complete surrender. Jesus doesn't want to control your life—He wants to transform it. He doesn't seek servants motivated by fear but children responding to love. Today, acknowledge Jesus as your King. Not just your Savior, but your Lord. Let Him govern every decision, relationship, and dream.

Reflection:

What part of my life have I not fully surrendered to Jesus as King, even though I trust Him as Savior?

Day 5

Returning to His Rule

Reading: 1 Samuel 7:3-6; James 4:7-10

Devotional:

Perhaps you haven't walked away from God—you've just stopped letting Him lead. You still believe, attend church, and serve, but somewhere along the way, you started asking God to bless your decisions instead of govern them. Today is your decision point. God is not angry with you; He's inviting you back under His covering. Conviction is not condemnation—it's His loving call to return. Stop living by cultural pressure and start living by prayer. Stop comparing your calling to others. Stop asking for comfort when God is calling you to something greater. Draw a line in the sand today. Surrender control. Ask forgiveness for stepping outside His will. Declare that Jesus is King over every area of your life. His presence is enough. His promises are true. Come back under His rule.

Reflection:

What is one clear step of surrender God is inviting me to take today to come back fully under His rule?