

# The Thread

## WEEK 14- DEVOTION 3

*"But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, 'No! But there shall be a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.' And when Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the LORD. And the LORD said to Samuel, 'Obey their voice and make them a king.' Samuel then said to the men of Israel, 'Go every man to his city.'" - 1 Samuel 8:19-22*

Read 1 Samuel 8. Once the Israelites inhabited the Promised Land, they decided they wanted to have a king just like every other nation. God had led them out of slavery in Egypt, provided their every need while wandering in the wilderness, and given them great military leaders to win victory as they marched to their future homeland. After all God had done for them, they decided they wanted to be ruled by a king.

God's people made an interesting decision. They decided they wanted to be just like everyone else. They wanted a man to fight for them instead of God. And God finally told Samuel to let the people have what they wanted. In many ways the people in Samuel's day, some 3,000 years ago, were much like we are today. Their selfish thinking always led to bad results. As you pray today, ask God to lead your life and put His way of thinking and living ahead of yours. You will never go wrong by letting God be in control of your life.

### Something to think about . . .

- How often have you stumbled in your Christian life because you wanted to be like others instead of who God uniquely created you to be?
- How often have you trusted in the opinions of people to help you through the tough times of life instead of first praying and seeking God's direction?
- Can you think of a time when things turned out just the way you wanted them to, and the result was a disaster because it was contrary to God's plan? What did that teach you?