

Review:

Lesson 1: Jesus & Noah
Lesson 2: Jesus & Abraham
Lesson 3: Jesus & Joseph
Lesson 4: Jesus & Rahab

Lesson 5: Jesus & Jericho
Lesson 6: Jesus & Achan
Lesson 7: Jesus & Samson
Lesson 8: Jesus & David

Lesson 9: Jesus & Goliath

Jesus & Absalom 2 Samuel 18:6-17

It is an eternal truth: in leadership, _____ always matters. The higher the level of leadership, the greater the _____ that is required. Christ followers who make excuses for our leaders' character flaws are missing this truth.

Discussion 1. Why is character important to effective leadership? Do you believe bigger leadership positions require higher levels of character? Why or why not?

As a culture we are so very enamored with appearance and behaviors, perhaps because we can never fully know a person's heart. But God knows, and we are perhaps never more naïve than when we place our hopes in _____.

Discussion 2. What is the difference between caring about our outward appearance and placing our hopes in outward appearance? Do you think American churches today place too much emphasis on outward appearance? Why or why not?

Obedience to God is always a right decision, even when it is not clear how that obedience could possibly further God's purposes. When God's directive is clear, our correct _____ is likewise clear.

Discussion 3. Have there been steps or choices God has required of you in the past that, at the time, made no sense to you? Have there been times when you gave directions (orders? Command? Instructions?) to someone else that required them to just trust you rather than trying to figure out the "why"?

No matter what we think we understand about the consequences of our spiritually rebellious choices, we almost certainly underestimate them. The ripple effect is most often _____ and _____ than we could have imagined.

Discussion 4. Do you think if we could see the future impact of our sinful choices, it would prevent us from making them? Why do you suppose God doesn't show us those future impacts ahead of time?