

Discussion Guide For the Week of August 12, 2018

*Read 1 Kings 14:1-13; Isaiah 57:1-2; 1 Samuel 28:15;
Philippians 1:21-23*

- What are the first thoughts that come to your mind when you read that God allowed Jeroboam's son to die (1 Kings 14:12)? Does that seem fair to you? Is that right?
- The Bible teaches an important truth: death can be better than life for those who have placed their trust in God. Consider what it says in Isaiah 57:1-2. How can we be "protected" by dying? How can death be better than life for those who "follow" godly paths?
- Pastor Dan referred to what he called a really weird story in 1 Samuel 28. He said the whole "calling the ghost back" thing is weird and raises all sorts of questions we can't answer. But consider the first thing Samuel's ghost says in 1 Sam. 28:15 when he came back. Does it sound like Samuel preferred his life here on earth or what he experienced after death? Does this surprise you?
- Paul had experienced a vision of heaven (2 Corinthians 14), so he had an idea of the wonderful blessings which awaited God's children when they die. His view of heaven doubtlessly flavored his perspective of life and death. What does Philippians 1:21-23 say about what awaits God's children when they die? Why is that important?
- Does the Bible's view of life / death for God's children give you comfort and peace at the thought of death (yours or a loved one)? Those who have placed their faith in God need not fear death. Those who have not placed their faith in God need to seriously consider surrendering to God and receiving the great gift of eternal life He offers. How about you? Have you received God's gift of eternal life? Have you placed your faith in Him?