

Park Road Church invites you to love Jesus deeply by worshiping fully, learning humbly, and loving extravagantly

Sunday, February 28, 2021 | | 1 Samuel 4

Welcome

Call to Worship:

Leader: The Lord saves His people,
All: **For His name's sake He saves them!**
Leader: The Lord saves His people,
All: **That He might make known His mighty power!**

Musical Meditation

Confession: Forgive me, Lord, for I am rebellious and I resist your calls to repentance. Forgive me, Lord, for I am Ichabod and Your glory should depart from me.

Declaration: Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil. Yet do not turn aside from following the Lord. For the Lord will not forsake his people, for his great name's sake.

All: Hallelujah

Pastoral Prayer

Missions Partner Spotlight - Hannah's Hope

Announcements

Kids Dismissed to Children's Ministry

Sermon – Losing by Winning

Corporate Response Through Singing – Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me

Benediction

Flowers this week are given in honor of our essential workers, teachers & healthcare professionals.

Wifi = Park Rd Pres Guest;

Password = Guestprc

Sermon Text, Notes, and Quotes:

The way of the Lord involves winning by losing
 Inquisitive
 Ichabod
 Immanuel

And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines. They encamped at Ebenezer, and the Philistines encamped at Aphek. The Philistines drew up in line against Israel, and when the battle spread, Israel was defeated before the Philistines, who killed about four thousand men on the field of battle. And when the people came to the camp, the elders of Israel said, "Why has the LORD defeated us today before the Philistines? Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD here from Shiloh, that it may come among us and save us from the power of our enemies."

- 1 Samuel 4:1-3

...have patience with everything unresolved in your heart and to try to love the questions themselves...Don't search for the answers, which could not be given to you now, because you would not be able to live them...

- Rainer Rilke

And if you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God...The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before you. They shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.

- Deuteronomy 28:1-2; 7

But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall

come upon you and overtake you...The LORD will cause you to be defeated before your enemies. You shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them. And you shall be a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth.

- Deuteronomy 28:15; 25

An unexamined life is not worth living.

- Socrates

And she named the child Ichabod, saying, "The glory has departed from Israel!" because the ark of God had been captured and because of her father-in-law and her husband. And she said, "The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured."

- 1 Samuel 4:21-22

The glory of God is the infinite beauty and greatness of God's manifold perfections.

- John Piper

...all heavenly glory is with God, who is therefore called the God of glory, or glorious, not only because He is glorious in Himself but because He is the bountiful author and dispenser of all glory, as the sun is the fountain of all light.

- Anthony Burgess

For my name's sake I defer my anger; for the sake of my praise I restrain it for you, that I may not cut you off. Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tried you in the furnace of affliction. For my own sake, for my own sake, I do it, for how should my name be profaned? My glory I will not give to another.

- Isaiah 48:9-11

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

- 2 Corinthians 5:21

Study Questions:

Self-Inquiry:

1. Which do you enjoy more? Thinking about an idea, planning an event, or going on an adventure?
2. Are you a generally inquisitive person? Or do you take things at face value?
3. What is on your “list of questions” to ask God when you get to heaven?

Israel's inability to inquire:

1. What did Israel lose when the Philistines defeated them in v. 3?
2. Be honest: What is your initial reaction to Deuteronomy 28:1-25?
3. Samuel appeared to grieve the loss of the ark more than he grieved the loss of his sons. What does this tell you?
 - a. Why does his heart tremble in v. 13?

From Ichabod to Immanuel:

1. Re-read Isaiah 48:9-11.
 - a. In what ways is this passage intimidating?
 - b. In what ways is this passage comforting?
 - c. In what ways does this passage drive you to worship?
2. What is your failure? Your Ichabod?
 - a. What do you learn about yourself from that failure?
3. Reflect on 2 Corinthians 5:21.
 - a. What does Christ do to your Ichabod moments of failure?
 - b. What does Christ's work do for you?