

## WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE: CHAOS OR COMMUNITY...

- As we gather for this study, we recognize that many in our community are experiencing a mix of emotions.
- For the Black community, elections carry an absorbent amount of weight. Elections represent the ongoing struggle for equality, justice, and recognition in a country where we have fought for centuries to have our voices heard and our lives valued.
- The reality of this presidential outcome compels us to raise deep questions about the future and about our role in shaping it.
- The title of this study is drawn from Dr. King's poignant question he raised in 1967. Dr. King raised this inquiry as he looked across a nation divided by race, poverty, and war. He saw a choice for America: either continue down a path of division and chaos or commit to building a true community founded on justice, equity, and love.
- Tonight, we face similar choices. The election results for the majority of us feels like a setback; a reminder of how far we still have to go in creating a just and equitable society. In times like these, we can act out in anger or withdraw in disappointment.
- From a Biblical perspective, there were times when God's people faced similar challenges – when they found themselves under leaders who did not follow God's instructions and who worked against their well-being. How does God expect us to respond in such times?

### I. LEADERSHIP OUTSIDE OF GOD'S WILL

- \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ was ultimately \_\_\_\_\_, rather than \_\_\_\_\_.
- Saul sought power for \_\_\_\_\_.
- There is a difference in \_\_\_\_\_.
- It has always been a dangerous proposition, to elevate leaders who don't \_\_\_\_\_ and who do not operate with \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
- Saul ultimately acted in \_\_\_\_\_, rather than \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Why was Saul's disobedience wrong? It displayed:
  - \_\_\_\_\_
    - Saul showed that he practiced his own judgment over obedience to Divine order.
  - \_\_\_\_\_
    - Saul did not respect the instructions he had been given.
  - \_\_\_\_\_
    - Prioritize the vertical over the horizontal.

- **The comparison between Saul and Trump**

- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Faced with pressure, Saul took \_\_\_\_\_ and operated in a role meant for priests and prophets.
  - Trump acts out of impulse instead of considering the consequences.
- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Saul prioritized his own judgment over God's commands.
  - Trump's leadership is often marked by his preference for \_\_\_\_\_ over conventional counsel. This causes him to move with his \_\_\_\_\_ in view instead of making decisions that honor God and bless the nation.
- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Saul became increasingly \_\_\_\_\_ especially regarding David, whom he saw as a threat to his throne.
  - Saul would then make harmful decisions, including repeated attempts to kill David.
    - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Saul's obsession with \_\_\_\_\_ led to erratic behavior, deteriorating his mental and spiritual state.

- Trump's reaction to perceive threats to his authority often lead him to being \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Rather than \_\_\_\_\_,  
Saul often \_\_\_\_\_.

  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_

- Trump's style often emphasizes strength and success and he rarely, if ever, publicly acknowledges mistakes.
- **Saul's legacy? What happens to Saul?**
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - Let God deal with Saul.