

## SELF-DECEPTION

*1 Samuel 15:10-26*

### MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT EVERY HUMAN HEART BUILDS MONUMENTS
2. WE NEED AN IDENTITY THAT'S RECEIVED NOT ACHIEVED

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. This week we looked at the failures of Saul and focused on the idea of self-deception. Have you ever had your eyes opened to the fact you were deceiving yourself about something? What led to you seeing the truth? How did you respond when you became aware of your own self-deception?
3. By its very definition, it's hard to know when self-deception has taken root in your life. One way we can try to self-assess is by looking at the symptoms of self-deception and seeing if they appear in our life. The four symptoms we looked at from Saul's life are **1) Insecurity, 2) Blame-shifting, 3) Fake religiosity** and **4) Self-absorption**. Do you see any of these symptoms in your life?
4. One of the main ideas this week was that "We need to understand that every human heart builds monuments." This means we try to build our identity in all sorts of areas of life instead of resting in God. For Saul this had a lot to do with what other people thought of him. Where are you prone to build your identity outside of God? What are some negative effects you've seen from your attempts to do this?
5. One of the main ideas this week was that "We need an identity that's received not achieved." Read 2 Corinthians 5:21. According to this verse, what is the identity that we receive through Jesus? What are some implications of this identity?
6. The identity we receive in Jesus replaces insecurity with security. How does it do this? What are some of the ways this Jesus-centered security can look in daily life?

**A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU:** The identity we receive in Jesus replaces insecurity with security, allow for radical ownership of our failures, replaces fake religiosity with a relationship with God and enables us to be radically self-giving.