# Samuel: A life well lived in difficult times

## 5. Life in retirement 1 Samuel 12-19

# Retirement: God’s plan for ministers

## Numbers 8:24-26

# God has plans for each of us

## Those plans do not finish when we retire

### Samuel retired well

#### Samuel retained his gifts of prophecy and leadership

#### Samuel modelled walking with God until the day he died

# God is your reward

## His presence and fellowship

## Retired people:

### Remind us of the God who rescued us

### Encourage us to follow Christ wholeheartedly

### Show us how to live above the cares of this life

### Pray for us when we make our mistakes

### Listen to us when we seek comfort

### Demonstrate that power with God does not mean winning everything

# God is a God of grace

## He offers freedom and forgiveness to all

### Even retired people!

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# Finishing work

## Samuel left work well

### For those who have moved jobs, how did you leave? How did you manage it? What were the emotions you had in the final days?

### How could you have done it better?

## What did Samuel do to give the event ‘finality’? (1 Sa 12)

### What warnings and promises does he make?

#### In what ways can we copy this process when we leave a place of work?

# Continuing to use your gifts

## Samuel was a priest by birth and vocation but he also had the gifts of prophecy and leadership

### How did he continue to use these gifts? (1 Sa 19:18-24 if stuck)

#### What lessons can we learn about retirement in the church?

## Does a person need a position in order to use their gifts fully?

### Explain your answer

# Retirement

## What does retirement mean to you?

### Explain your answer

#### What jobs are ‘off-limits’ to you in retirement?

#### Why?

## Can a case be made for Christians to spiritually retire?

### What evidence do you use?