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## SERMON OUTLINE

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### Learning Faith in Times of Fear

1 Samuel 7:7-17

- I. Faith is desperate dependence on God: Israel fearfully pleaded with Samuel to pray (7:7-9).
  - *Afraid* – Faith is not the absence of fear (7-8).
  - *Samuel's offering* – Confession of sin is crucial to trusting God (9a).
  - *Samuel's prayer – Intercession* is fervent faith on behalf of others (9b).
- II. God responds to our faith when He is most glorified: God miraculously defeated the Philistines with thunder (7:10-12).
  - *Philistines drew near* – We need impossible situations to develop our trust in God (10a).
  - *The Lord thundered* – God is most glorified when we cannot take any credit humanly. (10b).
  - *Pursued* – God lets us participate in His work when clearly He alone has done a miracle. (11).
  - *Ebenezer/Help* – God is glorified as we remember how He brought us from failure to faith (12).
- III. God rewards our faith with more blessing: Israel enjoyed more victory and peace (7:13-14).
  - *Subdued, restored, peace* – As we trust God more consistently we will see God at work repeatedly.
- IV. Maintaining our faith requires godly leadership: Samuel steadily led Israel spiritually (7:15-17).
  - *Samuel judged, built altar* – To keep growing we need leaders to apply God's word and lead us in worship.

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Open Door Bible Church 2-2-14

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