

## **Text Message Slides**

**For those of you are connected with me on social media, you saw this play out real time, but on the first of April, I was preparing this message and my loving wife was spending some time in deep prayer, seeking Gods wisdom on what the best way that she could possibly prank me since it was April fool's day.**

**She got this great idea to make a Facebook post with a custom audience that was hidden from me and asked people to send me weird sermon suggestions.**

**After several of these came in, I was thinking what in the world is going on, is there a full moon or something?**

**Here are some of the best ones:**

**Hi pastor. My kid's travel ball team is playing in a tournament out of town this weekend. Do you have a short 5-8 minute sermon I could use to share with them as a devotion? Nothing dealing with sin or salvation...just something to get them motivated. PS I am sorry we will be unable to attend the next couple of months due to travel ball. TIA for your help we do so appreciate you.**

**Hey Pastor! I was hoping that you could preach on practical life applications of Jael in Judges 4. Like, can we lure evil people into our homes and kill them? For real? I was shocked when this came up in my Bible reading!?!?**

**Hey Doug will you preach a sermon on if animals go to Heaven this week?? Do all dogs really go to Heaven**

**Hi Pastor, I was wondering if you might consider some topics for your message at GFC for this Sunday. We've been struggling with our kids' worldly choices and wondered if you could preach about Harry Potter, what the Bible says about tattoos, or something called Orange Justice that seems to have concerning origins.**

**Hey Pastor Doug... would you mind preaching on how simple things can be an idol. Like... my husband has an obsession with everything Tapioca Pudding!**

**Hi Pastor, any chance you could preach from Genesis 19 and preach about Lot's wife. I am pretty sure there's a good message in there about wives being salty with their husbands.**

### **Slide under the influence**

#### **Intro**

**I have a word from the Lord for you today, and I have a sense of expectancy that God is going to move on your heart.**

**There are many things that affect and influence you in life. These influences sometimes cause us to behave in an atypical way. You might behave in one way normally, but something could influence you to behave in a way that you would normally not.**

**A couple of years ago, I got heavily involved in karate and kickboxing, I started sparing and fighting. During this time of my life, I had some teeth that were not in spectacular condition. Poor teeth and getting punched in the face is not a great combination.**

**I found myself in need of getting a few teeth extracted. I went in and they told me to schedule a ride, because I should not drive afterward. No biggie. Now I had a night of prayer that I was leading at church that night. I thought, I should be alright, but if not I would call somebody to be a pinch hitter for me.**

**We had a team of about 20 pastors, so it would not be a big deal.**

**The Doctor gave me a medicine bottle with one pill in it and told me to take it 30 minutes before I arrived; this pill was a hypnotic. I had never taken a hypnotic before and I did not know how this medicine would affect me.**

**I took the pill, and waited for it to kick in. I felt absolutely nothing.**

**Although I could not see or detect it, I was under the influence of this medication. Once I was under the influence, my perception, my judgement and everything was effected.**

**I thought that I was totally normal. I was able to communicate, I felt completely capable to do anything, including lead a large night of prayer at our church.**

**Now I don't drink or smoke or snort, but if you or someone you know does. You may notice that people who are under the influence do not always realize when they are under the influence. They may even try to drive their car and run into a telephone poll.**

**They do not realize that their judgement is influenced.**

**Ladies and gentlemen, this is not only true for substances, but it is true mentally, socially, and spiritually.**

**We need to know and understand when we are under the influence of others, of darkness and most importantly we need to understand when we are under the influence of the almighty God.**

**I did not realize that my behavior was abnormal.**

**For those of you who know me, I am already a pretty weird person, if you throw some chemicals in the mix, you have a front row seat for a sideshow.**

**Tell about the meeting**

**Today's message is Under the Influence.**

**We are going to be taking a look at David in our text this morning. For those of you who brought your bibles you can open to 1 Samuel 16**

**I am going to give you a little background on the situation here:**

**The Lord has rejected Saul as the king at this point and the prophet Samuel is bummed out, he is in a season of mourning for Saul., God steps in and influences Samuels Posture.**

**That is the first topic –**

**Posture - Slide**

**1 Samuel 16:1 The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."**

**Samuel was still mourning over the way that things used to be. When you are going in one direction and a change of direction is needed, it is not always an easy thing to navigate.**

**Maybe you liked the way that things were going, you were comfortable. But a change of direction has overtaken you, maybe it is not as dramatic as God rejecting Saul as king, but maybe you find yourself having to change directions in your career, later in life than you want to. You cannot control the changes, but you can control your posture.**

**Maybe you have a family member who has made poor decisions and they are asking you for help**

**Friends, if God is bringing a change of direction, it is because he has something better in store, you need to be in a posture to receive**

**In verse 2 and 3 The Lord instructs Samuel to go to Jesses house and invite Jesse and his sons to go and sacrifice with him, God says I will show you what to do then.**

**this verse reveals a lot ...When you are following the direction of the Lord, allowing him to lead you, sometimes you have to step out and start doing what God is telling you to do before he gives you the big picture.**

**How many times do we pray God, I will do whatever you want, if you just tell me what it is. And we want God to supernaturally download the 10 point strategy for our situation before we take a step.**

**God gives us wisdom, and sometimes he give specific detailed direction, but many times he does not. He just says, why don't you give \_\_\_\_\_ a call. Invite such and such to go to the Easter Service with you. Volunteer to lead a grace group.**

**When we step out in what he asks us to do he gives us the next step.**

**That is what happened with Samuel when he stepped out in obedience and did what God called him to do he was given the next step.**

**Slide - Which brings us to the next point. Perception.**

**Our perception is perhaps one of the most powerful influences in our life. I have seen many people destroy their lives because of incorrect perceptions.**

**Weather it is their perception of their self or others, their perception HINDERS what god wants to do in their life.**

**I would love to lead a grace group, but I don't think I am qualified. I would like to pray with others, but I have my own mess in my life, how can God use me.**

**The men in my family don't show affection or emotion, because it is a sign of weakness.**

**Your perception is skewed.**

**The great thing is that God will help you correct your perception,**

**For those of you who have a skewed perception, let me take a minute and speak some life over you.**

**You are not a victim, you are a victor**

**You are an overcomer, You have been redeemed, you are a blood bought child of the most high God and you can do absolutely anything that he is calling you to do, you have been fully equipped,**

**Look at 1Sam 16: <sup>6</sup> When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."**

**We do that sometimes; our perceptions influence us and we think surely this is God. We look at things in the natural and think, this must be what God wants.**

**We must not forget to pray about situations and opportunities even if appear good or bad, God look at what God said to Samuel.**

**<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."**

**<sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either." <sup>9</sup> Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one." <sup>10</sup> Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these." <sup>11</sup> So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?"**

**This is a great pausing point. We have discussed the influence of our direction and perception affect us, but God can also influence our position.**

### **Position Slide**

**"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the sheep."**

**Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."**

**Church hear me this morning, some of you have been out tending the sheep, keeping your head down working, and you wonder if anyone notices, you wonder if god even notices.**

**God is orchestrating events and circumstances, and he sees you in that field. He sees you crying out, he sees you asking**

**Walking on the beach seeking direction – deb  
in a candle lit room holding a pillow crying out for more -Jessica**

**he sees that you are trying to live a godly life when everyone around you is partying, and you wonder why you can't just have fun, and ignore what is going on inside of you life everyone else.**

**It is because you were CREATED for so much more.**

**God sees you when you are in the field, and in his timing his influence will change your position.**

**<sup>12</sup> So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.**

**Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one."**

**He is the one!**

**From there God began to open doors and reposition David. HE was pretty good jamming on the guitar, and before he knows it he is in the service of the king. Playing music to soothe him. God opened doors for him to build relationship**

**So fast forward to chapter 17**

The Armies of Israel are lined up on the battle front against the philistines. They have this massive big boy ultimate fighter named Goliath, the guy was humongous, he towered above everyone on the battle field. And he starts taunting and mocking them.

But God influenced David's position and put him right in the middle

**8 Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. 9 If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us." 10 Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." 11 On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.**

That is a perfect opportunity to discuss the next area of influence

### **Peers - Slide**

Your peers blah blah

They were in fear

**13 Jesse's three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab; the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah. 14 David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul, 15 but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem.**

**16 For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand.**

**17 Now Jesse said to his son David, "Take this ephah of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread for your brothers and hurry to their camp. 18 Take along these ten cheeses to the commander of their unit. See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them.**

**He is still ----**

**20 Early in the morning David left the flock in the care of a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry. 21 Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other.**

**22 David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and asked his brothers how they were. 23 As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it.24 Whenever the Israelites saw the man, they all fled from him in great fear.**

**This passage is very real to some of you. Maybe you are facing your own giant.**

**25 Now the Israelites had been saying, "Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his family from taxes in Israel."**

**Who does this guy think he is.**

**28 When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, "Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the wilderness? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle."**

**29 "Now what have I done?" said David. "Can't I even speak?" 30 He then turned away to someone else and brought up the same matter, and the men answered him as before. 31 What David said was overheard and reported to Saul, and Saul sent for him.**

**David didn't have time to listen to the haters**

**32 David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him."**

**33 Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth."**

### **Powers slide**

**You have a choice at this moment – what will you allow to influence you**

**David did not let the influence of his peers sway him, he understood the greatest influence.**



**34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it.36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. 37 The LORD who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine."**

**Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you."**

**This historical account can be found not only in the bible, but in other non canonical texts.**

**David stepped out on the field and slayed his giant, but the giant didn't lose the battle then.**

**He lost it, when David faced the lion, then when he faced the bear. When David realized that God had the power to influence him and give him the ability to pry open those Jaws**