

# Session #5 When defeat isn't defeat and victory isn't victory

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#### **Breaking the Ice:**

• Watch opening video presentation

### **Exploration:**

Read: 1 Samuel 4:1-11

What did the men of Israel fail to understand about God when they sent the Ark into battle? Do we ever treat God as divine 911?

How can we avoid this mistake?

Read: 1 Samuel 5:1-12

What miscalculation did the Philistines make about God? How did this miscalculation affect them?

How much help does God need to defend His own honor? What is the price we will pay if we dishonor God?

How can we avoid the mistake the Philistines made?

Read: 1 Samuel 6:10-16

How did the Philistines "set up" the return of the Ark as a test to see if God was at work?

What other lessons do you think we can learn from this account?

## **Bringing it Home**

Daily worship can enable us to keep our respect and honor for God intact. What is or should be your daily practice of worship?

#### **Bottom Line**

It is far better to honor God at all times- as we do we will avoid His disfavor and receive His blessing.