Sunday Night Bible Study 1 Samuel 4:1-11

1. In our text tonight, what is your guess why the Israelites were defeated?
2. Often, many people who call themselves Christian neglect, ignore, or disregard God's insight. By doing so, they get themselves into trouble. After they engage in this treatment of God, they act like God is obligated to get them out of it. Does this attitude surprise you? Why or why not?
3. In a sense, the Israelites treated the Ark as a good luck trinket. Have you ever been guilty of treating God or the things of God this way? Why do people do these kinds of things?
4. Isn't it amazing that the Philistines heard such a rumble that ended up only being emotions and fluff that yielded no fruit? Is there more to your faith than just emotional catharsis? Why or why not?
5. What did it mean to the Israelites that the Ark of God had been captured?
6. What would it mean for me personally if God's presence left my life?