



## Lead Me On

This past week at church Pastor Steven spoke on 1 Samuel 16:1 where God questioned Samuel and asked him why he was still grieving over Saul when He had rejected him as king. He spoke about times in our lives when God was in something but now He's done and has moved on. God was done with Saul as king and was ready to anoint David as his successor.

As human beings it is so hard for us to let go of the familiar. Even when faced with the facts we still believe there's no way God is in this alteration. He spoke thus and such to me and this right now does not make sense. Yet the time comes when even His plans have passed and is it usually due to human will, disobedience or some kind of testing. However change is eminent and we can dwell in failure and regret or decide it is time to live and move on.

Since 2002 I have lost or had to let go of so many things; work, finances, friends, my car, my apartment and not to mention, my reputation. I remember when I came back to Charlotte in February 2008 and went to my old apartment in the University Area. I cried and cried as I drove around to see where I used to live; a place where I was happy and self-sufficient. In that moment I felt I had utterly failed. Living with other people and depending on them for food and shelter was one of the most humbling experiences of my life. It takes swallowing your pride to ask for help of that kind. Parts of me died during those years; some without recovery.

In past months and very recently God had been asking to me to let go of some things and to move on from one in particular. At first some of those decisions were quite difficult especially when it came to friendships. Some relationships we have are for a lifetime while others are for different seasons in our lives. The trick is to listen to God and pay attention to what's happening in those seasons so you can move when He's moving.

So many times we miss when God is leading us on. We become immobilized in the mire of grief and mourning over something we lost a long time ago. We have faith that God will restore it but perhaps this is a time when He is saying, 'I'm done with that. Stop grieving and move on.' Yet no one can move us but ourselves; it's our choice.

One of the things Pastor Steven said that really confirmed what God had been recently speaking to me was, "You have to let go of this so I can give you that." I've let go of friends, dreams and desires that may not have any hope of resuscitation. Yet like God instructed Samuel, I have to first fill my horn. In other words get a fresh filling of God's spirit. Then it's time to let Him lead me on...to the place where the river runs into Your keeping...