



LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Remember that Life Groups are a place where we practice what is preached. We discuss the Bible for transformation, not just information.



Icebreaker: Are you a detailed planner, a loose planner (structured but not always detailed), or a fly-by-the-seat-of-your-pants type of person?



PRAY:

Pray together for the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to behold wonderful things (Ps. 119:18) as your group meets with the Lord.



READ:

Ask a group member to read **1 Samuel 22:1-5**. Consider having multiple people read the passage.



DISCUSS:

This week's passage finds David in the wilderness running from King Saul. When have you experienced a difficult season, when everything felt like it was going wrong or like your life was falling apart? What did you experience in your relationship with God during that season?



IDENTITY:

Before the events of 1 Samuel 22, David had been anointed by God to be king! How do you think this anointing helped David to persevere in this difficult season? How does recalling what God says about us impact the way we persevere?

WORSHIP

Read Psalm 34:1-8. David wrote this psalm right before the events of 1 Samuel 22. He says he will "bless the Lord at all times." How is that different from pretending everything is fine?

COMMUNITY



Who gathers around David in verse 2? What does their condition reveal about the kind of people God can bring together? How might this help us understand the community that follows Jesus?

MISSION

If our security is in God, how can that help us as we move toward people who are hurting or in a "wilderness" season?



GROUP ENGAGE:

Jesus invites anyone and everyone to follow Him, and we get to extend that invitation to others. As a group, try this idea to engage in the mission of God or come up with your own.

Identify someone who is frequently overlooked. This could be a caregiver, custodial worker, volunteer, neighbor, or isolated person. Plan a specific way and time to encourage them this month.

WE ARE FAMILY:

How can you hold each other accountable to respond to God this week?

Share prayer requests (either as a group, or as partners/smaller groups)

VALUE SPOTLIGHT:



BEAUTY | That which reflects the glory of God.

A community that welcomes burdened people makes the heart of God visible.



SERIES OVERVIEW:

Life is hard, but the challenges we face are never wasted. The Bible shows us that God has a plan for it all. In 1 and 2 Samuel, David wrestles through years of uncertainty and danger before becoming the king of Israel. These wilderness years were essential to God's plan, just as Jesus' suffering and resurrection were essential for the redemption of the world. In this message series, we'll talk about how to trust God when life gets tough. As hardship reveals our false securities, we'll see that God has a plan that's infinitely better than ours.

August 9

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Big Idea: God chooses differently.

Key Question: How does God choose differently?

- He defines success. (16:1-5)
- He prioritizes the heart. (16:6-10)
- He develops the overlooked. (16:11-13)

August 16

1 Samuel 22:1-5

Big Idea: Our need for security is met in God

Key Question: How does God meet our need for security?

- He delivers. (v. 1a)
- He provides. (vv. 1b-4)
- He guides. (v. 5)

August 23

1 Samuel 24:1-22

Big Idea: Trust God instead of taking control.

Key Question: How do we keep from taking matters into our own hands?

- Refuse to compromise. (24:1-7)
- Rest in divine justice (24:8-15)
- Repay with good. (24:16-22)

August 30

2 Samuel 5:1-5

Big Idea: God finishes what he starts.

Key Question: How does God finish what he starts?

- In his timing. (5:1-3)
- True to his promise. (5:4-5)