



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: What were some of your biggest dreams as a child? How many of them became a reality?



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 **2 Samuel 5:1-5**. Consider having multiple people read the passage.



DISCUSS:

David waited more than 20 years from his private anointing in 1 Samuel 16 until this passage. What does this reveal about how God prepares us through extended periods of waiting? How do we navigate times when God's promises haven't been fulfilled yet?



IDENTITY:

God recognized David as king long before the rest of Israel did. When life circumstances or other people's opinions conflict with who God says you are, what habits or truths help you root your identity firmly in Christ?

WORSHIP

It is often confusing when God works on His timeline rather than ours. But how can worshipping God in the waiting prepare us for new seasons or opportunities?

COMMUNITY

The covenant made in v. 3 required David and the leaders to put past mistakes and division behind them. What is one barrier, such as pride, old hurt, etc, that may be holding you back from deeper community with other believers?

MISSION



In v. 2, the people recognized that David was leading Israel before he received the title of king. Where is God calling you to live on mission today, rather than waiting for the perfect opportunity or platform?



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:



GOODNESS | That which demonstrates the character of God.

When we live in a transformed community with each other before God, the character of God is displayed to the world.



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)