



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: Share about a time when your first impression of something or someone turned out to be incomplete or wrong.



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 16:1 - 13**.



DISCUSS:

What does this passage help us understand about the difference between how people see and what does God see? What might help us to see things more from God's perspective?



IDENTITY:

When you feel overlooked, which labels or opinions tend to define you? What truth about your identity in Christ speaks to those feelings?

WORSHIP

How does knowing that God see the heart inform how we think about our worship of Him?

COMMUNITY



How can our group become a place where people are known for more than their outward appearance, success, or abilities?

MISSION

Who around you might be overlooked by other people? How could you intentionally notice, listen to, or serve that person?



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.

Hidden faithfulness can reflect God's glory even when no one else notices it.



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)