

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of May 14-20, 2023

“VIEW FROM THE CAVE”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

Have you ever hidden something so well that even you couldn't find it later? What was the item and did you ever find it?

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Read 1 Samuel 22:1-5. What emotions do you think David might have been experiencing when he arrived at the cave of Adullam? Can you relate to David's sense of isolation and vulnerability in this passage? How have you experienced similar feelings in your own life?
2. Who were the men who joined David in the cave, and what were their reasons for doing so? How did their shared experiences, challenges, and faith contribute to their unity and purpose? In what way have *you* been able to reflect God's purposes as a part of the community of believers in using your gifts, passions, and resources to build up and encourage others?
3. Read Psalms 142. How does this psalm teach us about the power and importance of honest and authentic prayer before God? Can you share any personal experiences where you have found solace, guidance, or comfort through pouring out your heart to God?
4. Read Psalms 57. How does this psalm challenge our understanding of worship and gratitude, particularly in the midst of difficult circumstances? Do you believe in the importance of personal and corporate worship? What does this look like in your life today? Share specific practices that you *actually* do.
5. In both Psalms 57 and 142, David calls God his refuge. What does it mean for God to be a refuge? Are there any barriers or obstacles that prevent you from fully embracing God as your refuge? Are there any specific habits or mindsets you need to let go of that may hinder you from leaning on to God?

6. What does it mean to “lean on God alone”? How does this concept differ from relying on our own strength or seeking support from other sources? Can you share any personal experiences where you have learned the importance of leaning on God alone?

7. What lesson(s) from this series so far has intrigued, captured your attention or simply spoke to your life? Share this with the group.

8. NEXT STEPS

When God is all you have, you have all you need.

- ☐ I will cultivate a habit of seeking God.
- ☐ I will not give up on God and I will lean on him as his refuge.
- ☐ I will worship God even in times of trouble and difficult circumstances. .
- ☐ Just like David, I will follow his lead and set my heart to praise God.

Don't forget to:

- ☐ Go through the devotionals every day this week.
- ☐ Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God's Word.

CLOSING THE SESSION

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray for a heart that never gives up on God, leans and depends on him and seeks out to praise him.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who's going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING GUIDE

May 15 Psalms 142
May 16 Psalms 57
May 17 1 Peter 5:5-9
May 18 Psalms 4
May 19 Psalms 31
May 20 2 Chronicles 5
May 21 1 Samuel 24