

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of May 21-27, 2023

“HOW TO RESTORE FAITH WHEN IT’S ALL GONE”

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 experienced a situation where someone close to you acted in a way that felt like a betrayal? How did you handle it?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read 1 Samuel 27

1. What were the implications of David seeking refuge among the Philistines, considering the historical enmity between the Philistines and Israel? Can you think of a contemporary situation (personal or someone else's) where a Christian may be tempted to do something like that?
2. How do you think David's actions reflect his reliance on his own strategies rather than seeking God's guidance? How do you think his decision to reside among the Philistines affected his relationship with his fellow Israelites, particularly those who were loyal to him?
3. What impact did fear play in David's decision-making process in 1 Samuel 27? How can we relate to his struggles with fear and decision-making in our own lives?
4. How does decision-making as a Christian differ from decision-making based solely on personal desires or societal norms? List down three Biblical principles that a Christian could apply when faced with difficult choices. Have you ever used these in your decision making?
5. What came to your mind when you read about David's compromise? How do you think did his compromise impact his relationship with God? What do you see about God's mercy in David's situation?
6. What is an area of uncertainty that you are facing today? As a Christian, how does one cultivate an attitude of surrender and trust in God?

7. Identify one lesson or insight you have gained from a past failure. In what ways does failure provide an opportunity for growth, humility, and dependence on God? How can you extend grace and forgiveness to yourself in the midst of failure? How has God used past failures in your life to shape you?

8. NEXT STEPS

God loves us too much to quit on us.

- ☐ I belong to God and I know he will never give up on me.
- ☐ I will persevere and remain steadfast in my faith, even when faced with challenges and uncertainties.
- ☐ I will seek God in my decisions, in the face of uncertainty and even in failure.

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 renewed sense of faith and a deeper understanding of God's love and presence in our lives.
- Pray for healing and restoration from past failures or disappointments impacting our faith journey.
- 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 29 1 Samuel 27-28

May 30 1 Samuel 29-30

May 31 1 Samuel 31

June 1 2 Samuel 1-2

June 2 2 Samuel 3

June 3 2 Samuel 4-5

June 4 2 Samuel 6