



LIFE GROUP GUIDE

CONNECT • GROW • SHARE • PRACTICE

What's Happening: [Summerpalooza \(VBS\) Registration Open](#), [Serve at Summerpalooza](#), [The Well Stars Fall Soccer Registration](#), [Cultivate](#), [Child Dedication Class](#), [Local Serve Opportunities](#)

Resources: [The Ultimate Community](#), [You Don't Find Community by Looking for It](#), [Community Covers a Thousand Threats](#), [Let Your Dream Small Group Die: Five Ways to Meaningful Community](#)

Connect (30 Mins):

- If your group followed last week's practice and intentionally checked in with each other as a way to experience ongoing freedom from sin, how did that go?

Discuss (30 Mins): 1 Samuel 27, 29, & 30

- What observations/questions/reflections did you have?
- **Read 1 Samuel 27:1.** As God seems absent to David, he becomes so discouraged that he moves from being "willing" to "will-less," relying on his own plan instead of seeking the Lord. When have you found yourself in a similar situation where it felt like following God "wasn't working"?
- David convinces himself of something that isn't true, and in the echo chamber of his own mind, begins to take control rather than trust God. What are some lies you find yourself believing when life is not going the way you expected?
- David, in his self-deception, began to live out a false version of reality and worked to maintain it, thinking it was better. When have you found yourself heading in the wrong direction, trying to live a life you knew you shouldn't and God stepped in to redirect you?

Follow up: How did those decisions affect those around you?

Apply (30 Mins): Intentionally Pursuing Community

The deeper issue underneath David's isolation is that he believed the opposite of what God had spoken. David looked to his circumstances instead of God's character. He believed, "If I obey, God should bless me the way I expect." God didn't immediately change David's circumstances, but He did change David's perspective. God doesn't always promise easy fixes, but He *does* promise His presence.

- **Where are you tempted to withdraw, take control, or disengage from God, and what would it look like to become "willing" again?**

That's where the necessity of biblical community comes into play. God uses it as a means of grace to bring us out of our own thoughts and speak truth into our lives through His people. In seasons of exhaustion and desolation, we can begin to drift, believe lies, and make decisions apart from the Lord, often leading to compromise that costs more than expected. We were not meant to walk through those seasons alone. Have someone read **Proverbs 18:1** aloud, then answer together:

- **As a group, where do we see a tendency to drift toward isolation instead of staying connected to one another?**

Close your time by praying together, asking God to build trust, honesty, unity, and deeper connection. This week, come up with ways to intentionally pursue one another and share them next week as you continue to help each other stay grounded in truth.

For Further Study:

- Proverbs 12:15, Proverbs 18:1, Proverbs 27:17, Ecclesiastes 4:9–12, Matthew 18:15–17, Acts 2:42–47, Hebrews 10:24–25, James 5:16

Next Week's passage: 1 Samuel 28, 31, & 2 Samuel 1