



# LIFE GROUP GUIDE

CONNECT • GROW • SHARE • PRACTICE

**What's Happening:** [Summerpalooza \(VBS\) Registration Open](#), [Cultivate](#), [Give to Missions](#), [Active Membership Class](#), [Child Dedication Class](#), [Grief Share](#) & [Kid's Grief Group](#)

**Resources:** [The Christian Life Is More than 'Tryin' to Get the Feeling Again](#)

## **Connect (15 Mins):**

- If you haven't met since Easter, take time to share how your Easter was—both the highs and lows—and where you saw God at work in your life or in the lives of others.

## **Discuss (30 Mins): 1 Samuel 19-21**

- What observations/questions/reflections did you have?
- Jonathan and David share a covenant friendship marked by love, loyalty, and faithfulness. Where in your life do you have friendships like this—and where might your relationships lack that kind of depth and pursuit of one another's walk with the Lord?
- The things David loses, his job, relationships, and stability, are all good things. What are some of the “crutches” in your life that the Lord has revealed you were depending on more than Him, trusting in the experience of consolation rather than the God of consolation?
- Though the text no longer says God is with David, it continues to show Him delivering and guiding him and ultimately preparing him for something greater. ***He is not only the God of consolation, but also desolation.*** Where in your life are you tempted to overlook God's faithfulness because it doesn't look the way you expected?  
*Follow up:* How have you understood being in a place of desolation, whether because of a result of your sin versus God bringing you into the wilderness?

## **For Further Study:**

- Romans 5:3–5; Corinthians 4:16–18; Galatians 6:9; Hebrews 5:11–6:12; Hebrews 12:7–11; James 1:2–4, 12; 1 Peter 1:6–7; 1 Peter 4:12–13; 1 Peter 5:10

## **Apply (45 Mins): Embracing the Gospel Over Time**

This week we see that in seasons of desolation, God is not absent—He is often removing what we tend to rely on so that we would learn to depend on Him more deeply. As David loses what once gave him stability, he is brought to a place of realizing his need for God. Desolation is normal and good for our formation. It is both beautiful and painful, helping us to grow.

- **Recall a time in your life where you found yourself in a similar season. What did you notice about how you experienced God's presence and what did He show you in that time?**

As a group, take time to reflect on areas of life that currently feel uncertain, pressured, or out of your control. *Split up between men and women if applicable/necessary* and have each person answer the following question:

- **What situation in your life right now feels uncertain or out of control, where you're trying to trust God but it's hard to believe He is truly at work in it and leading you through it?**

Have the person to their right pray for them, asking God to help them see His hand at work, depend on Him, and remember ***He is with you. He loves you.***

As you go throughout this week, continue to intentionally pursue dependence on God in your situation. Consider inviting someone from your group to help turn to His Word, bring it before Him in prayer, and to speak truth and encourage one another instead of going about it alone.

## **Next Week's Passage(s): Psalms 34, 52, 56, 134**