



LIFE GROUP GUIDE

CONNECT • GROW • SHARE • PRACTICE

What's Happening: [Easter Gathering Times](#), [Baptism Class](#), [Serve at VBS \(Summerpalooza\)](#), [Summerpalooza Registration Opens Soon](#), [Cultivate Commitment](#), [Local Missions/Serve Opportunities](#), [Grief Share](#) & [Kid's Grief Group](#), [Men's Breakfast](#)

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

Connect (20 Mins):

- Consider doing [Seder Supper](#) together this week following the resource above.
- Check in with those participating in Lent this year.

Discuss (20 Mins): 1 Samuel 18

- What observations/questions/reflections did you have?
- David's life quickly shifts from success into difficulty. Where have you expected following God to look like steady progress, and struggled when it hasn't?
Follow Up: What is it about those moments—when following God doesn't lead to the progress or outcome you expected—that feels especially difficult or unsettling for your faith?

Apply (50 Mins): Embracing the Gospel Over Time

This week we reflected on David's experiences of consolation (a perception of God's presence) and desolation (a perception of His absence). Like David, we all move through both seasons. Whether it's a season of great joy and fervor or wondering at times where God's hand is in the moment—the truth remains: God is present in each one. Because of this, we are invited not to base our relationship with Him on what we feel, but to continue to trust and pursue Him in every season.

For Further Study:

- [Psalms of desolation:](#) Psalm 42, Psalm 55, Psalm 77, Psalm 88 [Psalms of consolation:](#) Psalm 23, Psalm 27, Psalm 62, Psalm 121

Practice:

Spread out individually around your space. Spend about 5 minutes in each of the Psalms below using the prompts, followed by prayer (10–15 minutes total). Set a timer if helpful, and use this time to earnestly seek the Lord.

Read — Psalm 13 (Desolation): Reflect with the Lord on how this psalm shapes your understanding of God's presence in seasons where He feels distant. Where might God be inviting you to trust Him even when you don't feel His presence?

Read — Psalm 16 (Consolation): Reflect with the Lord on how this psalm shapes your understanding of God's presence in seasons where He feels near. How might this deepen your dependence on Him rather than the feeling itself?

As you come back together, take time to go around the group and allow everyone to share from their experience. The questions below can help get the conversation started:

- **What stood out to you in your time?**
- **What did Psalm 13 or Psalm 16 reveal about how you typically respond to God's presence or perceived absence?**
- **How might God be inviting you to pursue Him more deeply, regardless of whether you feel near to Him or not?**

If this was meaningful, consider practicing it daily this week with a different Psalm each day. Invite someone to do this with you, and come back next week ready to share how it went.

Next Week's passage: 1 Samuel 19-20