



LIFE GROUP GUIDE

CONNECT • GROW • SHARE • PRACTICE

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

Resources: [Victory Through Suffering](#), [Life Without Romans 8:28](#), [Formed for the Glory of God](#), [Christian Formation According to Edwards](#), [The Essence of Gospel Transformation](#)

Connect (30 Mins):

- As the Semester comes to an end, think of a way to celebrate another year together.
- Follow up from last week. If you were able to spend some time reflecting on last week's message, what can you start to do today to open up the work of the Spirit and intentionally live in pursuit of Christ?

Discuss (30 Mins): 2 Samuel 2-5

- What observations/questions/reflections did you have?
- Abner knew God had chosen David, yet he still tried to strengthen his own position and control the outcome. Why do we sometimes resist surrendering to what God wants when it threatens our own influence or comfort?
- Joab allowed revenge and personal offense to drive his actions, even when it worked against the heart of the king. How have you seen unresolved anger or bitterness in your own life slowly distort your judgment and relationships?
- David spent years in obscurity, hardship, and waiting, yet over time he learned to seek the Lord instead of forcing outcomes himself. What does David's journey so far teach us about how God forms humility, trust, and character through difficult seasons?

Apply (30 Mins): Embracing the Gospel Over Time

David waited over 15 years between being anointed king and finally stepping into the throne. During that time, he experienced fear, loneliness, failure, hardship, and didn't always make good decisions. Yet through all of it, God was forming something in him. Nothing was wasted, everything purposeful. Romans 8:28 reminds us that because of the finished work of Jesus on the cross, God is actively working in all things for His glory and our good, even when we do not fully understand the process.

Have someone read **Romans 5:1-5** and **Romans 8:28** aloud. Then answer together:

- **Looking back on your life, where can you now see God using a difficult season, failure, disappointment, and yes, even your poor decisions in them, to shape character or mature you over time?**

Take a few minutes as a group to encourage one another by sharing how you have seen God remain faithful through seasons that did not make sense at the time. Then reflect on the following together:

- **Where in your life are you currently struggling to trust that God may still be working through the process?**

Close your time by reading 1 Peter 5:6-8 then pray for one another, asking God to help you trust His providence, remain faithful in the process, and continue embracing the Gospel over time.

For Further Study:

- Romans 5:3-5, Romans 8:28, Philippians 4:10-13, Colossians 2:6-7, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, James 1:2-5, 1 Peter 5:6-8

Next Week's passage: 2 Samuel 6, John 4