



LIFE GROUP GUIDE

CONNECT • GROW • SHARE • PRACTICE

What's Happening: [Serve at VBS \(Summerpalooza\)](#), [VLA Preview Day](#), [Hume Summer Camp Registration](#), [Local Missions/Serve Opportunities](#), [Grief Share & Kid's Grief Group](#), [Baptism Class](#), [Men's Breakfast](#)

Resources: [Fasting Guide](#), [Book: When People Are Big and God is Small](#), [Seven Subtle Symptoms of Pride](#), [How Pride Poisons the Soul](#), [The Pride of Being Afraid](#), [People Pleasing and Fear of Man](#), [The Offense of Fearing of Man](#),

Connect (30 Mins): (Building Relationships: Know, laugh, pray [follow-up/requests], eat together, follow-up on previous practices, etc.)

If you're observing Lent, take a few minutes to share how it's going—what's been encouraging and what's been challenging so far? See the revised [Lent](#) guide for more ideas if needed.

Discuss (30 Mins): 1 Samuel 15

- What stood out to you during this week's message? Share your observations and reflections you noted down from the sermon or your personal study time (ask if anyone practiced the 3x3 suggestion from last week).
- In verses 12 and 13 of 1 Samuel 15, Saul's decision to take credit for defeating the Amalekites reveals the pride that is ruling in his heart. If your typical response to success, praise, or recognition was examined, what would it reveal about who you believe deserves the glory?
- Saul's fear of losing his kingship drove him to grasp, justify, and shift blame (1 Sam 15:15). What does fear of losing something (status, security, approval, control) tend to produce in you—and what might that reveal about what you trust most?

Apply (30 Mins): Experiencing Ongoing Freedom Through Surrender

This week, we witnessed Saul's downward spiral as king. When confronted with his sin, he grasped desperately at Samuel's robe instead of humbling himself in repentance, revealing a heart more concerned with protecting his image and kingship. He was given the chance to surrender the idols that ruled him, yet he chose control. **With honest reflection:**

- **In what situations do you find yourself trying to manage the consequences of your sin rather than humbly confessing it?**
- **What are some things you tend to grasp at when circumstances seem out of your control?**

Because of our faith in Christ, we are secure in our eternity, yet the daily work of surrender and growth remains. When facing the consequences of sin, we can trust God. But managing the fallout rather than confessing it delays the freedom that repentance brings. **What might it look like to release control, turn from those idols (repent), and walk more fully in the life He offers?**

Before group ends, read Psalm 139:23-24. Identify one specific area where you are tempted to protect your image, justify yourself, or control the fallout of your sin. Write it down. Throughout the week, write it down everyday, bring it before the Lord in prayer, and confess it plainly without excuse. Invite at least one other person in your group into this process through prayer and accountability. Share your experience with this at your next gathering. **Next Week's passage:** 1 Samuel 16:1-13

For Further Study:

- Proverbs 29:25, Colossians 3:1-5, Galatians 5:16-17, Galatians 5:24-25, 1 John 1:5-10, 2 Corinthians 7:10