



LIFE GROUP GUIDE

CONNECT • GROW • SHARE • PRACTICE

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

Resources: [Get Alone with God](#), [Desperate for Distraction](#), [How to Navigate the Seasons of Life With God's Help](#), [A Prayer About Seeing with Gospel Eyes](#), [My Biggest Danger When Judging Others](#), [Seder Supper \(Week of Easter\)](#).

Connect (30 Mins): (Know, laugh, pray, follow up [practices/prayer requests]), eat, etc)

- An opportunity to be baptized at our Easter gatherings is coming. If you've been baptized, share how God led you. If you haven't, hear others' stories and consider exploring what baptism might look like for you. See [Baptism Position Paper](#) and [Baptism Class Sign-up](#).

Discuss (30 Mins): 1 Samuel 16:1-13

- What stood out to you during this week's message (observations/questions/reflections)?
- God looks at the heart, not outward appearance (verse 7). How does this challenge the way we tend to see and judge others—and even ourselves?
- Samuel first evaluates Jesse's sons by what he sees (verses 6–10), but demonstrates growth in discernment and obedience to God even in his old age. Despite the chronological season of life you find yourself in (e.g. young adult, middle-aged, elderly), what is one area right now where God has been reshaping how you think, respond, or trust Him?
- David was young, overlooked, and seemingly least likely to be king, yet the Spirit of the Lord came upon him (vv. 11-13). Where in your life right now might you feel unnoticed, unimportant, or stuck in something ordinary?
Follow up: What might faithfulness to God look like in that place?

For Further Study:

- 2 Chronicles 16:9, Psalm 13, Psalm 23, Psalm 147:10-11, Proverbs 4:23, 1 Timothy 4:7-8, Colossians 3:15-17

Apply (30 Mins): Embracing the Gospel Over Time in Obscurity

David spends much of his life in relative obscurity—a theme we saw in the sermon and will continue to see throughout his story. God uses that hidden season to shape David's heart into one that humbly submits to Him, which is why he is described as a man after God's own heart (**1 Samuel 13:14**). Because God looks at the heart, Scripture calls us to guard and cultivate it (**Proverbs 4:23**). Though we are made new through Christ and the Holy Spirit, cultivating a heart for God also requires intentional rhythms of seeking Him.

- **What does your current time alone with God typically look like?**
- **What distractions or competing priorities tend to pull you away from spending time alone with God?**

Take time to partner up with someone from your group and pray through an intentional plan to cultivate your heart over this season considering: **How might the Holy Spirit be inviting you to cultivate your heart more intentionally in those quiet moments with Him?** Write down the plan on 3x5 note cards and exchange. Or try using a [rule of life](#)

This week, try reading one Psalm daily that reflects a time of waiting and cultivating faithfulness (see Psalms below and meditate on them). Share your experience with this at your next gathering. **Daily Psalm Reading (Day1–7):** Psalm 19 | Psalm 23 | Psalm 25 | Psalm 27 | Psalm 37 | Psalm 51 | Psalm 139

Next Week's passage: 1 Samuel 16:14-23.