



COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

*“Becoming more like Jesus together through regular gatherings,
shared devotion, and sacrificial love.”*

1 Samuel 26 | Week 13

INTRO

- How old were you when you got your first cell phone, and what kind was it?

READ AND DISCUSS (15 Min)

Read 1 Samuel 26 together as a group and discuss the following questions.

- **What does this passage teach us about God?** What does this passage teach me about who he is (his nature and character), what does this passage teach me about the way he interacts with his creation?
- **What does this passage teach us about man?** What does this passage teach us about the condition of man? Our sinful nature? Our need for a savior?
- **What do you feel led to do in response to this passage?** Is there something we need to do? Is there a sin I need to confess? A relationship I need to reconcile? A song to sing? With these questions we are asking people to consider how this passage informs the way they interact with God, with other people, and the world.

APPLY

- Pastor Spence said that “circumstances are an opportunity to apply our faith, not decide our faith”. What do you think he meant by this?
- Pastor Spence talked about “heat”. Heat refers to hard moments in life where we feel pressure, stress, Anger, even anxiety over decisions or circumstances. How are you trusting God with the heat in your life?

- Pastor Spence said“...There is an easy way that looks godly...in times of hardship” and we are tempted to choose this way to justify doing what we want”. How can we guard against this when we are feeling the “Heat” of life?
- What did Pastor Spence mean by proof texting, and why is it so dangerous?
- Read Romans 12:17-21, what does this passage teach us about the way we should treat our enemies?

Pray

- Pray for God’s guidance as we trust him with the future launch of our union county campus along with another church plant!
- Pray in groups for the “heat” in your life and pray for resolve to trust Him through it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please take some time to let your group members know these important announcements! Even if all these announcements don’t apply specifically to your group, it’s good for your group members to know what’s going on in the life of our church and this is a great opportunity to encourage your group members to take their next step in following Jesus!

→ **New Community Group Leader Interest Meetings | April 16 & 23**

- ◆ These interest meetings are for those who want to take their next step in following Jesus by leading a Community Group at Mercy. If you want to understand more about why groups exist and what it could look like for you to lead one, we encourage you to attend one of these meetings! Interest meetings will take place after both services at our Providence Road campus on April 16 and at our Northeast campus on April 23.

→ **Mercy Union County Interest Meeting | April 23 & 30**

- ◆ These interest meetings are for those who want to learn more about why Mercy is planting in Union County and how you can join the launch team for our newest campus! If you’re interested, we encourage you to attend one of these meetings. Interest meetings will be after both services at our Providence Road campus on April 23 and after the 9 am service at our Northeast campus on April 30.

→ **Lydia Collection | April 25**

- ◆ The Lydia Collection strives to build professional women into successful gospel messengers. Through mentorship, teaching, and community, our goal is to inspire

women to more effectively utilize their God-given talents in their careers and impact the working world for the sake of the Gospel. Join us from 6:30-8:30 pm at our [Providence Road](#) campus.

→ **Men's Gathering | April 29**

- ◆ Join us for a cross-generational gathering of the men at Mercy Church to fellowship, worship God, and grow in our understanding of how finding our identity in Christ impacts every other area of our life. We'll spend the morning in fellowship at one of three events of your choosing – driving range, disc golf, or ultimate frisbee. All men will gather at our Providence Road campus for lunch, worship, and a teaching from Pastor Spence. RSVP [here!](#)