



COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

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

1 Samuel 9-11 | Week 7

INTRO

- Play a short game of this or that. Some examples are below, but get creative!
 - ◆ Bacon or sausage?
 - ◆ Breakfast or dinner?
 - ◆ Beach or mountains?
 - ◆ Movies or books?
 - ◆ Inside or outside?
 - ◆ Cold or hot?
 - ◆ Early bird or night owl?

READ AND DISCUSS (15 Min)

Instead of reading all 3 chapters together, try and see if you can rebuild the story of what happened in chapters 9 through 11 of 1st Samuel from memory. If your group is unable to or gets stuck you can read it aloud together.

- **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

- What stood out to you from this past week's sermon?
- Saul was a member of the tribe of Benjamin, the smallest tribe in Israel. What does it say about God that he would choose a king for Israel from this tribe?
- Pastor Spence mentioned three things we can learn about the way God works in the lives of his people. The first, "God is working. In your life. Right now". How do we see this truth play out in Chapters 9-11?
 - ◆ Share with the group some ways you see God at work in your life now.
- Pastor Spence's second application point was "You can follow God's unknowable plan by following his knowable word". What do you think Pastor Spence meant by this?
 - ◆ To follow God's knowable word means we have to read it, and study it. How are your group member's doing at reading the Word of God regularly throughout the week? *Highlight the F260 reading plan found in the back of each quarterly journal.*
- The last point of this week's sermon was, "Jesus is the Good Savior King". How is this Good News as we trust God with his *unknowable plan*?
- Read Colossians 1:16-17 and Ephesians 1:11. How do these passages encourage us to trust our "Good Savior King"?

Pray

- Pray that God would help trust him with your past, present, and future (proverbs 3:5&6).
- Pray for God to open your eyes to the many ways he is at work in your life, through both the good and hard circumstances.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please take some time to let your group members know these important announcements!

- **Equip Class: Breaking Free From Body Shame | Feb 27**
 - ◆ Join the women of Mercy Church this Spring for a 6-week topical bible study. We will work through Jess Connolly's study on her book, *Breaking Free from Body Shame*. We're expectant and overjoyed to provide a space to process through this topic alongside sisters in Christ. Spots are limited and you will be responsible for purchasing your own workbook. To learn more or sign up, see mercycharlotte.com/news

→ **Connect: Lydia Collection | Feb 28**

- ◆ 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. Dinner is provided!

→ **Mercy College United | Mar 30**

- ◆ If you're a college student in the greater Charlotte area, you're invited to Mercy College United! This is a ministry-wide gathering of worship, teaching, and community. Join us at 7 pm at our Northeast campus to connect with other college students in the area!