



COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

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

2 Samuel 1 | Week 15

INTRO

- What gas station snack best describes your personality?

READ AND DISCUSS (15 Min)

Read 2 Samuel 1 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 Rashard opened his sermon with the following quote from Dr. Martin Luther King - *“Actually, time is neutral. It can be used either destructively or constructively. I am coming to feel that the people of ill will have used time much more effectively than the people of good will. We will have to repent in this generation not merely for the vitriolic words and actions of the bad people but for the appalling silence of the good people.”*

Do you agree with this quote from Dr. King? What do you think he meant by it?

- How does this quote from Dr. King help us think about the way we use our time on earth in light of eternity?

- The death of Saul and Jonathan brought grief to David, because he loved them. The author of Samuel was intentional to show us David's grief in verses 11 and 12. Why is it important for us to see this? And why is it important for us to be intentional to grieve our losses?
- Pastor Rashard explained from this passage, 5 ways we will be remembered when we die
 - ◆ We will be remembered for how we responded to our failures.
 - ◆ We will be remembered for our fight.
 - ◆ We will be remembered for the way we served others.
 - ◆ We will be remembered for the friendships we cultivated.
 - ◆ We will be remembered by whose glory we lived for (our own or God's).

Discuss these five as a group. How do each of the above statements challenge you to evaluate the way you are living your life?

- As you wrap up your time as a group, discuss how the gospel gives us hope in our grief. Discuss how the gospel helps respond to our failures, persevere in the fight against sin, serve others, cultivate deep friendships, and live for the glory of God and not our own.

Pray:

Tonight in prayer, make time for men and women to pray separately and discuss the following questions Pastor Rashard presented to us in his sermon.

- What area of disobedience is harming your future fruit? Is there anything you must remedy, or any relationship you must repair, before the end of your life? How are you learning from your failures to teach more about how to love God and others?

Additional prayer prompts to guide your time:

- Pray that we would have the courage to face our grief with the hope of the gospel.
- Pray that Mercy would be a place that many people experience healing from past hurts.
- Pray that you would live a life that is worthy of the gospel

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!

→ **Young Pros Quarterly Gathering | May 2**

- ◆ Our next Young Professionals Gathering is on May 2 from 7-9 pm at our Providence Road campus. Come connect and fellowship with other people at our church that are in your same life stage! We will spend time in fellowship and then we will move to a time of worship and encouragement. Dinner is provided. Find the RSVP link at mercycharlotte.com/news.

→ **PRIME Gathering | May 20**

- ◆ If you're over the age of 55, you're invited to the next PRIME Gathering on Saturday, May 20, from 6:00-8:00 pm at James Boyce Park (300 Boyce Park Rd)! We will enjoy the great outdoors and get to know each other better through conversation and fellowship. Dessert will be provided, but make sure to bring a picnic dinner and a chair! Find the RSVP link at mercycharlotte.com/news

→ **Membership Class | May 21**

- ◆ If you've already attended Starting Point and are ready to pursue covenant membership here at Mercy, your next step is Membership Class! To attend Membership Class, head over to our Next Steps page and find the section titled "Been around for awhile and already attended Starting Point?" Choose the form for the campus you regularly attend and indicate on the form you are ready to become a member of Mercy Church!

→ **Disciple Making Team (DMTs) Interest Meeting | May 21**

- ◆ If you want to learn how to obey the great commission and make disciples wherever God has placed you, then come learn more about Disciple Making Teams! Join us after any service at both our Northeast and Providence Road campuses on May 21st to get more details on what these groups look like. You can be a part of what God is doing as we seek to see a Gospel awakening in the city of Charlotte that is carried to the ends of the earth!