

# LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

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## PRAY TOGETHER

Father, God, we invite you to lead our conversation and soften our hearts to your voice today. As we reflect on Saul's story and the calling you've placed on men to reject passivity, walk humbly, live in obedience, and value integrity, expose any places where we've settled for "obedient-ish" or allowed culture to define us. Let this time not just inform us, but move each of us toward a clear, concrete step of faithfulness in our homes, relationships, and daily lives.

## ICE BREAKER

Israel wanted a king because all the other nations had one. What's one funny time you tried to "be like everyone else" (maybe with fashion, hobbies, tech, etc.) and it totally didn't fit you?

## SERMON OVERVIEW



[SCAN FOR  
SERMON CLIP](#)



[SCAN FOR  
SERMON CLIP](#)

Pastor Kurt joins us this weekend to explore King Saul's life and challenges us to examine what it truly means to be a person of Godly character in today's world. Through the lens of 1 Samuel, we discover that the nation of Israel demanded a king so they could be like other nations, rejecting God's direct leadership. Their first king, Saul, had everything going for him—he was tall, handsome, strong, and chosen by God. Yet when the moment came for his anointing, he was found hiding among the baggage. The message weaves together the requirements God laid out for kings in Deuteronomy 17—warnings against accumulating horses, wives, and wealth—with Saul's eventual downfall through pride and partial obedience. We are confronted with the reality that partial obedience is the same as disobedience. Most powerfully, we are reminded that Jesus himself modeled the ultimate humility by choosing crucifixion—the most humiliating death imaginable—to serve us. As men, on this Father's Day weekend, we are challenged to reject cultural definitions of manhood and embrace Robert Lewis' four-part biblical vision: reject passivity to lead courageously, walk humbly in submission to God, live in faithful obedience to His Word, and value integrity above all earthly success.

## READ SCRIPTURE

**1 SAMUEL 8:6-22, 1 SAMUEL 10:20-24, DEUTERONOMY 17:14-20**

## CONNECT RELATIONALLY

- 1) Share a time when the presence or absence of a father (or father figure) significantly shaped your spiritual life, positively or negatively. How do the statistics about strong father-child relationships and spiritual outcomes (church attendance, prayer, belief in God) resonate with your own story?
- 2) In what ways have you hidden from God's calling in your life, as Saul did among the baggage, and what fears—whether from the past or present—have held you back from stepping into a role or calling that God has for you?
- 3) Proverbs 22:1 says, "A good name is more desirable than great riches." What legacy are you currently building? What would you like people to say about your character at your funeral?

**GROW  
SPIRITUALLY**

4) Deuteronomy 17 instructs future kings to write out God's law and read it daily. Reflecting on your own journey, which spiritual disciplines help you cultivate humility and maintain wholehearted submission to God?

5) Saul was “obedient-ish”—doing most of what God commanded but cutting corners and acting for his own benefit. Why is partial obedience actually considered disobedience?

6) What is the difference between being humiliated and choosing humility, and how does Christ's example on the cross redefine what it means to be truly strong?

**LIVE  
GENEROUSLY**

7) Identify one area where you’re currently “obedient-ish” to God. What specific step will you take this week to move from partial to full obedience?

8) How does recognizing that all your gifts and talents are given by God—meant for His glory through the humble service of others rather than your own recognition—change the way you approach leadership and influence? What is one tangible way you can “lower yourself” in service to someone this week—using your strength, status, or resources for their good instead of your own comfort?

9) In what practical ways can we all cast a clear, biblical vision of manhood for the next generation instead of allowing culture to define it? How is God calling you, in your sphere of spiritual influence, to help young men embrace true, biblical manhood?

**TAKE  
ACTION**

Based on our conversation today, how do you sense the Holy Spirit inviting you to take a next step in practical application? Please complete this statement, I am feeling convicted to take the following action (keep it simple):

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Please invite each group member to share their next step, if they have one.

**PRAY  
TOGETHER**

Take a few minutes for each person to share a recent joy or praise, as well as something that’s weighing on their heart. Then invite someone to pray over these requests. Be sure to pass them along to everyone in the group so you can keep praying for one another between meetings.

**ENGAGE  
TOGETHER**



**Convoy of Hope - Hygiene Pack Event** - When families are displaced by natural disasters, even the simplest supplies can make a big difference. That's why Northview is partnering with Convoy of Hope to pack hygiene kits for people in need worldwide. On June 28, at every Northview Campus, we'll help deliver practical care, share the love of Jesus, and remind families they're not alone. Find a serving opportunity with your group and join us in making a difference.