

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

DAVID: The Making of a King

Week 5: Obeying God In Hardship
1 Samuel 21-23:5

Week of March 20, 2022
(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

We all go through hard times. David did too. This week we learn how God wants to give us survival essentials as we survive and thrive through hardships in life.

Kicking it off:

If you could only bring one snack food with you into a “survival bunker,” what would be your favorite go-to snack?

Discussion:

1. Read 1 Samuel 21:6. What do we learn about hospitality in the ancient world (based on both Jeff’s message and the Scriptures)? Why do you think it still matters so much today?

“Since there was no other food available, the priest gave him the holy bread—the Bread of the Presence that was placed before the LORD in the Tabernacle. It had just been replaced that day with fresh bread.”

2. One of the first survival essentials for hard times is God’s **presence**. Think about a time when you most felt (or wanted to experience) God’s presence in your life. Then describe how that felt with your group.
3. A second survival essential is God’s **strength**. What are some ways we’re often tempted to rely on our own strength, instead of God’s? How could we better navigate that?
4. How do you think having the **community** of God plays a key role in surviving life’s difficulties? What principles do we see lived out in 1 Samuel 22:1-2?

“David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. When his brothers and his father’s household heard about it, they went down to him there. All those who were in distress or in debt or discontented gathered around him, and he became their commander. About four hundred men were with him.”

5. Jeff explained how God’s **guidance** often reveals what we need to do when facing hardships or tough seasons in life. Why is it important to you? What might happen to those who don’t seek God’s guidance?
6. What did you learn about seeing God’s **purpose** at work, in allowing us to go through tough times? Next, read 2 Corinthians 1:4. How can we be encouraged by this verse, knowing that God has a purpose for our painful times?

“He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.” (NLT)

Wrapping It Up:

Ultimately, God sees whatever challenges we are facing in life. Pray that He will guide your group members and open your eyes to see when He is sending you the essentials you most need to keep pressing on.