

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Samuel - Hearing God in the Chaos

Week 4: Hiding From God

1 Samuel 10:1-27

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This week we studied when Samuel called Saul to be the first king of Israel. Unfortunately, Saul freaked out and hid when he was to be presented as Israel's king. Sometimes we are guilty of hiding from God when he is calling us to an assignment that is outside of our comfort zone. From the story of Samuel and Saul, we can learn how to courageously obey when God calls us.

Kicking it off:

Speaking of "hiding," tell the group about any hiding games that you played as a child.

Discussion:

1. Reread *1 Samuel 8:6-7* (NLT): Samuel went to the Lord for guidance. "Do what they ask," the Lord replied, "for they are rejecting me, not you. They don't want me to be their king."

In asking for a king, Israel was rejecting God. What are ways that we reject the kingship of God?

2. Samuel informed Saul that God wanted him to be Israel's king. Reread Saul's response in *1 Samuel 9:21* (NLT): Saul replied, "But I'm only from the tribe of Benjamin, the smallest tribe in Israel, and my family is the least important of all the families of that tribe! Why are you talking like this to me?"

Can you think of other times that God called ordinary people to extraordinary assignments?

Why do you think God prefers to use ordinary people?

3. Reread *1 Samuel 10:5-6* (NLT): "At Gibeah, you will meet a band of prophets. They will be playing a harp, tambourine, flute, and lyre, and they will be prophesying. The Spirit of the Lord will come powerfully upon you! You will prophesy with them. You will be changed into a different person."

What does this passage teach us about the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

4. Reread *1 Samuel 10:22-23* (NLT): The Lord replied, "Saul is hiding among the baggage." They found Saul and brought him out.

In the glorious moment that Saul was to be presented as king, he hid among the baggage. Why does God frequently call his people to assignments outside of their comfort zone?

5. Can you think of a time when you were afraid to do something that God wanted you to do?

6. Read *Joshua 1:9* (NIV): Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.

How does this verse help us deal with our timidity in following God's lead?

Wrapping It Up:

Ask the Lord to help you hear his Spirit's leadings. Ask him to give you the courage to obey!