



## Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series: The Biblical Pattern (Week 3) – February 19, 2023

*This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only." (James 1:22) **Step 1: GATHER** with your family or group. **Step 2: REVIEW** and **DISCUSS** the key points and scriptures from the sermon. **Step 3: PRAY** for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.*

### DISCUSSION STARTER

How is the Tabernacle a representation of us? The 4 layers of the Tabernacle are sea cow skin, ram's skin, goat hair, and white linen. What is the significance of each layer?

### DIGGING DEEPER 1

**Read 1 Samuel 4.** Why did Israel get defeated by the Philistines? The Israelites rebellion brought defeat and death. What did they try to do to gain victory? What was the outcome? 30,000 Israelite men died, and the Philistines captured the Ark. What was their true pathway to victory? Their pathway to victory was repenting and surrendering to the Lord. So many times, we try to use God to bring victory, instead of surrendering to God and repenting and then letting Him bring the victory. The problem is, we often don't want to repent and be forgiven. Why is that? What happened in verse 22? What is the pattern that is observed here? When the Ark was in the hands of sinful people, death followed (see 1 Samuel 5 & 6:19). Then we read in 1 Samuel 7:1-2 that the Ark is brought to the house of Abinadab. Abinadab's son oversees the Ark for 20 years. Why didn't Abinadab's son die like all the others? (He was consecrated; meaning cleansed, set apart, to serve the Lord). What does this tell us as we enter into the Lord's presence?

### DIGGING DEEPER 2

**Read 2 Samuel 6:1-2, 9-11, 17; 7:1-7.** Around 1000 BC the Ark returns to Jerusalem. Two of Abinadab's sons Uzzah and Ahio escorted the Ark to Jerusalem. On the way, the ox pulling the cart that carried the Ark stumbled. Uzzah with good intention, reached out his hand to stabilize the Ark and immediately he died. What feelings come to your mind when you hear this story? What does this say about God? In verse 9, we see that David was filled with fear and detoured the Ark to the house of Obed-Edom. The Ark stayed there 3 months. What happened to Obed-Edom and his household during that time? Why? In 2 Samuel 6:17 the Ark of the Lord finally returns. What did this mean or signify? (God had returned to dwell among His people). We read in 2 Samuel chapter 7 that David felt guilty. What made him feel that way and what was his solution? Did God ask for a permanent building to replace the tent? Did God allow David to build the Temple? Who did? What is the significance of 2 Chronicles 5:13-14? (The presence of God had a permanent dwelling place for 372 years). During those 372 years what did God's people do? (rebelled) Because of their constant rebellion Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the temple. Do you see the pattern?

### DIGGING DEEPER 3

**Read Haggai 2:6-9 and Luke 2:22.** Around 515 BC the 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple is built. What was missing in this temple that the first temple had? (The Ark or the presence of God). In verse 9 it states that future glory of this temple will be greater than its past glory. How can this be? The 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple was smaller and much less spectacular than the 1<sup>st</sup> Temple Solomon built. What or who is the future glory that will be greater than its past glory?

### DOING THE WORD

**Read Matthew 27:50-51.** What happened to the temple veil? All the beauty of the Tabernacle could only be seen from the inside, just as Christ's beauty is seen only by those in Christ. Pray that this time in God's Word will help you to better understand the relationship between Christ and the Tabernacle as stated in Hebrews 9:11-12.

**Timeline:** ~1446 BC the Tabernacle is built by Moses; ~1070 BC The Philistines capture the Ark of the Covenant; ~966 BC Solomon builds the Temple; 586 BC the Temple was destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar; 515 BC the 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple is built under the leadership of Ezra. In AD 70, the Second Temple was destroyed, along with Jerusalem, by Titus' army.