SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Check out your notes from this week's sermon. What caught your attention?
Was there anything you hadn't heard or thought about before?
Did anything challenge you or feel difficult to process?
Was there anything you disagreed with?

INTRO QUESTIONS

Do you ever look for God's work in quiet ways, or are you always needing to see Him in the dramatic or noisy?
Can you think of a time in you knew something was wrong but did it anyway?

DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - 1 Samuel 2:11-36

Eli did not directly rebuke his sons or deman their repentance:
"Eli may be a father who cannot change the heart of his sons; but he is also a high priest who could end the employment in the tabernacle of his sons. And he has not." - Tim Chester
Are we more faithful to our family or to God? Reflect on this in light of Matthew 10:37-39. Can we confuse niceness with love?
What qualities does biblical love have that mere niceness lacks?

TAKEAWAYS

GOD REMAINS FAITHFUL EVEN IF WE ARE FAITHLESS
Read 2 Timothy 2:13. Explain how Romans 5:8 supports this.
Read Hebrews 7:23-28 and discuss the differences between our great high priest Jesus and the priests who came before him.

Compare the following verses: 1 Sam 2:35; Matthew 16:18; Philippians 1:6.
Notice God's divine commitment to Israel and the church. Does it also apply to individual believers like us?

TODAY, IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS
God's judgment revealed in the Scriptures causes different reactions.
Criticism: IT IS TOO HARSH. We must understand our sin demands God's judgement; this is what we truly deserve. Curiosity: At what point are we beyond repentance?
What should our reaction be? Read Acts 17:30-31

Do you think there is enough preaching about the urgency of repentance?

God's judgment begins at His household. Read and discuss 1 Peter 4:12-19 and discuss the encouragement found there.

KNOWLEDGE APPLIED

What does this teach us about people? About Jesus? How will we better obey Christ based on what we've just learned? Who will we share this with?