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

Can you think of a time in your life when you found yourself in utter and obvious dependence upon God? How do you tend to handle waiting?

DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - 1 Samuel 2:1-10

What does Hannah's song tell us about who God is and how He acts? Does this song teach you anything new about God that you hadn't really considered before?

How does 1 Samuel 2:9-10 exalt Jesus?

How does 1 Samuel 2:1-10 compare to Luke 1:39-55?

TAKEAWAYS

WHERE IS THE GOD WHO KNOWS IN OUR REAL THINKING ABOUT LIFE? Discuss the following quotes:

"When we think of life and refuse to think of death, or when we think of death and ignore the God who raises the dead, our understanding is a distortion of the reality." John Woodhouse

"It is so important that we see life as Hannah sees it – entrusting our lives to the God of knowledge; knowing that He knows best. Hannah's faith was firmly rooted in the Sovereign God. Her grasp of reality was extraordinary, for the God who knows is the giver and taker of life." Brad Clouse

GOD'S POWER IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS

Throughout the Scriptures, God chooses to show His power through apparent weakness. See 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. When God displays His power in weakness, He is glorified. In His power, He reverses any circumstance. This causes our heart to rejoice in the Lord.

In light of 1 Samuel 2:9 – it is not by strength that one prevails – to quote Dale Ralph Davis: are you "ever in danger of substituting human gimmicks for dependence on the God of the impossible?"

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?