

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Plot Twist

Speaker: Andrew Boone

Message: Don't Sin to Win

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ENGAGE THE SCRIPTURES

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 5:5b-6 NIV

“God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God’s Word with the goal of leading to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: Don't Sin to Win.

Read 1 Samuel 24

- The ‘wisdom’ of the others with David would have led him to sin against the command of the Lord. Getting wise counsel from other believers is good and right (Proverbs 12:15), but with what must that wisdom always align? Does God ever let us pass blame for a sin we have committed? What prevents David from killing Saul even though all the worldly circumstances point to God giving Saul over to David?
- David does not kill Saul (a big sin), but he does cut off a portion of his robe (a less egregious sin). Have you been tempted to commit a larger sin but rationalize with yourself and compromise on a smaller sin instead? Is a small sin an acceptable replacement for a big sin? What can we do in instances like this to completely refrain from sinful behavior or thought?
- At the heart of David’s refusal to kill Saul is the recognition that the Lord installed Saul, and it will be the Lord who removes him. Even though the leadership is corrupt, he is going to honor him and his position. The Apostle Paul shares similar sentiments in Romans 13:1-7. How do you process this concept with the backdrop that not all leadership is godly? Are you able to honor the position and respect the person even when you don’t align with them?



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- We learn from David what it looks like to absorb and forgive instead of retaliate. Has anyone ever forgiven you in a significant way? Have you ever forgiven someone? Explain. How would you encourage someone who struggles with this to forgive? What is some practical advice you would use to help them? David had the opportunity to take revenge on Saul but chose not to. How can we apply this principle of forgiveness in our own lives when someone wrongs us? What challenges do we face in letting go of anger and choosing forgiveness?

Read 1 Samuel 25

- David is humbly approached by Abigail, and because of her words and actions, he stops his march toward bloodguilt. Have you ever received correction from a godly person? What is your heart disposition when you are receiving correction? How have you experienced positive growth because of another's correction? Do you view it as a blessing when a godly person corrects you?
- If you were to see someone blundering into sin, would you tactfully alert them to their error? What are some general principles we should follow when engaging a person in such a conversation? How comfortable would you be bringing someone's sin to their attention? Have you had experience doing this before? What can you share from your experience to help others grow in this area?
- In order to know if someone is walking into sin, you have to know what sin is. How would you rate your familiarity with what the Bible has to say about sin? How often are you Engaging the Scriptures on your own? How well is your comprehension? Are there new methods for ingesting Scripture that you could try to help you with comprehension and recall?

Read 1 Samuel 26

- God provides for David's success by causing a deep sleep to fall over the men in Saul's camp. When have you experienced God's provision in your life? Where has God unexpectedly shown up?
- David has had multiple opportunities to take matters into his own hands but chooses to trust God's timing instead. What are some things we can be doing now to prepare us for moments when we might be tempted to sin to win by taking the easy way out?



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