

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Plot Twist

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: The Choice of Two Swords

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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.

Read 1 Samuel 21

- David is alone and on the run. How do you deal with feelings of loneliness, isolation, and being overwhelmed? What happens to your faith during these times? What can we do as a Small Group to continually grow as a support system for each other?
- David lies to Ahimelech, the priest, for his own self-gain. What are some reasons that have caused you to lie? Is lying ever justified, such as protecting someone's feelings or preventing harm? Remembering there is a difference between something that is descriptive in the text vs prescriptive, what does Scripture teach us about lying?
- David faced Goliath without a sword but now thinks he needs one against Saul. David has always viewed God as his protection, and he travels to Philistine land for sanctuary. In these two examples, what behaviors do you see being exhibited by David that are contrary to his norm? When you are stressed, do you ever act in ways that are other than normal? What is it about these situations that get us taking our eyes off of God? What are some practical ways to remind ourselves of God's faithfulness in challenging moments?
- David is convicted of his sins when standing before Achish, the king of Gath. What has brought conviction in your life in the past? What kind of response does that conviction provoke within you? Do you have unconfessed sin you are holding onto?



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SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP

Read 1 Samuel 22

- What kinds of people were attracted to David? How is it similar to the kinds of people who were attracted to Jesus and those whom Jesus sought out? How do you see yourself? Do you recognize yourself as someone in distress, in debt, or discontent? If so, what kind of gospel promises does Jesus offer to people like you?
- Because David deceived Ahimelech, there were real consequences as a result of his sin. What are some consequences that can come from bending the truth or withholding information? Which of these consequences have you experienced? In moments when we want to lie for the purpose of protection or provision, what can we do instead to lean into honesty and transparency?
- Discuss the stark differences in leadership style between Saul and David. Saul offers worldly gain for those who align themselves with his purposes. Have you ever been caught in the trap of greed and focusing on material gain? Why can material wealth be a significant draw for some people? What draws people to David? What do you see in his leadership that you can apply to your life?
- After Ahimelech escapes to David, David acknowledges his guilt and says to him, "Stay with me; don't be afraid. The man who wants to kill you is trying to kill me too. You will be safe with me." David is looking forward and wants to provide for the need in front of him. After repenting of sin, what are some steps people should take to restore what sin destroyed?



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