



# COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of 1/16/22

---

## Opener (10 minutes or less)

*If you could have any celebrity (who's currently alive) as a life coach for a year, who would you choose?*

---

## DISCUSSION (50 minutes or less)

*Begin your discussion time in prayer.*

**Scripture Reading:** 1 Samuel 13

Questions:

1. What stands out to you or is challenging to you from this chapter?
2. How has God tested your faith and patience as He tested Saul? Why does God test His people?
3. What do you think of Saul's non response to Samuel's rebuke and judgment? Have you ever been confronted or had to confront someone in this way (minus the prophetic judgment)? What was that like?
4. Review 1 Samuel 13:1-14. How did each of the following contribute to Saul's decline: pride (see vv. 1-4); unbelief and impatience (see vv. 5-9); deception (see vv. 10-12); folly (see vv. 13-14)? How do these same issues trip up believers today?
5. How does Saul's life contrast with the life of Jesus?

---

## PERSONAL (30 minutes or less)

1. What is going on in your life (note prayer requests and praise reports)
2. Oikos - the 8 to 15 people God supernaturally and strategically places in your life. Any oikos moments you would like to share..
3. Pray

## 1 SAMUEL 13:1-15

13 Saul lived for one year and then became king, and when he had reigned for two years over Israel,<sup>[a]</sup> 2 Saul chose three thousand men of Israel. Two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and the hill country of Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin. The rest of the people he sent home, every man to his tent. 3 Jonathan defeated the garrison of the Philistines that was at Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, "Let the Hebrews hear." 4 And all Israel heard it said that Saul had defeated the garrison of the Philistines, and also that Israel had become a stench to the Philistines. And the people were called out to join Saul at Gilgal.

5 And the Philistines mustered to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots and six thousand horsemen and troops like the sand on the seashore in multitude. They came up and encamped in Michmash, to the east of Beth-aven. 6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in trouble (for the people were hard pressed), the people hid themselves in caves and in holes and in rocks and in tombs and in cisterns, 7 and some Hebrews crossed the fords of the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. Saul was still at Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

### Saul's Unlawful Sacrifice

8 He waited seven days, the time appointed by Samuel. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and the people were scattering from him. 9 So Saul said, "Bring the burnt offering here to me, and the peace offerings." And he offered the burnt offering. 10 As soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came. And Saul went out to meet him and greet him. 11 Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "When I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines had mustered at Michmash, 12 I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the favor of the Lord.' So I forced myself, and offered the burnt offering." 13 And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the command of the Lord your God, with which he commanded you. For then the Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. 14 But now your kingdom shall not continue. The Lord has sought out a man after his own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be prince<sup>[b]</sup> over his people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you." 15 And Samuel arose and went up from Gilgal. The rest of the people went up after Saul to meet the army; they went up from Gilgal<sup>[c]</sup> to Gibeah of Benjamin.