



COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of 1/23/22

Opener (10 minutes or less)

What was the first way you made money?

DISCUSSION (50 minutes or less)

Begin your discussion time in prayer.

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 13:15-23, 14:1-24

Questions:

1. What stands out to you or is challenging to you from this chapter?
 2. How do you typically deal with failure or the risk of failure? 1 Samuel 14:6 *What are you trusting the Lord for today?*
 3. 1 Samuel 14:7 Share a story about someone that has your back.
 4. 1 Samuel 14:23 Share a day that the Lord saved.
 5. What enabled Jonathan and his armor-bearer to launch the incredible attack of 1 Samuel 14:1–14? Explain. Do you think victory in our endeavors is always a sign that God is pleased with us? Why or why not?
 6. Why didn't Jonathan tell his father that he had a plan to rout the enemy? What makes Jonathan's faith so admirable in this situation?
 7. What do we learn about Jonathan's character and faith?
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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

Chapter 13

15 Then Samuel left Gilgal[a] and went up to Gibeah in Benjamin, and Saul counted the men who were with him. They numbered about six hundred.

Israel Without Weapons

16 Saul and his son Jonathan and the men with them were staying in Gibeah[b] in Benjamin, while the Philistines camped at Mikmash. **17** Raiding parties went out from the Philistine camp in three detachments. One turned toward Ophrah in the vicinity of Shual, **18** another toward Beth Horon, and the third toward the borderland overlooking the Valley of Zeboyim facing the wilderness.

19 Not a blacksmith could be found in the whole land of Israel, because the Philistines had said, "Otherwise the Hebrews will make swords or spears!" **20** So all Israel went down to the Philistines to have their plow points, mattocks, axes and sickles[c] sharpened. **21** The price was two-thirds of a shekel[d] for sharpening plow points and mattocks, and a third of a shekel[e] for sharpening forks and axes and for repointing goads.

22 So on the day of the battle not a soldier with Saul and Jonathan had a sword or spear in his hand; only Saul and his son Jonathan had them.

Jonathan Attacks the Philistines

23 Now a detachment of Philistines had gone out to the pass at Mikmash.

Chapter 14

1 One day Jonathan son of Saul said to his young armor-bearer, "Come, let's go over to the Philistine outpost on the other side." But he did not tell his father.

2 Saul was staying on the outskirts of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree in Migron. With him were about six hundred men, **3** among whom was Ahijah, who was wearing an ephod. He was a son of Ichabod's brother Ahitub son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the Lord's priest in Shiloh. No one was aware that Jonathan had left.

4 On each side of the pass that Jonathan intended to cross to reach the Philistine outpost was a cliff; one was called Bozez and the other Seneh. **5** One cliff stood to the north toward Mikmash, the other to the south toward Geba.

6 Jonathan said to his young armor-bearer, "Come, let's go over to the outpost of those uncircumcised men. Perhaps the Lord will act in our behalf. Nothing can hinder the Lord from saving, whether by many or by few."

7 "Do all that you have in mind," his armor-bearer said. "Go ahead; I am with you heart and soul."

8 Jonathan said, "Come on, then; we will cross over toward them and let them see us. **9** If they say to us, 'Wait there until we come to you,' we will stay where we are and not go up to them. **10** But if they say, 'Come up to us,' we will climb up, because that will be our sign that the Lord has given them into our hands."

11 So both of them showed themselves to the Philistine outpost. “Look!” said the Philistines. “The Hebrews are crawling out of the holes they were hiding in.” **12** The men of the outpost shouted to Jonathan and his armor-bearer, “Come up to us and we’ll teach you a lesson.”

So Jonathan said to his armor-bearer, “Climb up after me; the Lord has given them into the hand of Israel.”

13 Jonathan climbed up, using his hands and feet, with his armor-bearer right behind him. The Philistines fell before Jonathan, and his armor-bearer followed and killed behind him. **14** In that first attack Jonathan and his armor-bearer killed some twenty men in an area of about half an acre.

Israel Routs the Philistines

15 Then panic struck the whole army—those in the camp and field, and those in the outposts and raiding parties—and the ground shook. It was a panic sent by God.[a]

16 Saul’s lookouts at Gibeah in Benjamin saw the army melting away in all directions. **17** Then Saul said to the men who were with him, “Muster the forces and see who has left us.” When they did, it was Jonathan and his armor-bearer who were not there.

18 Saul said to Ahijah, “Bring the ark of God.” (At that time it was with the Israelites.)

[b] **19** While Saul was talking to the priest, the tumult in the Philistine camp increased more and more. So Saul said to the priest, “Withdraw your hand.”

20 Then Saul and all his men assembled and went to the battle. They found the Philistines in total confusion, striking each other with their swords. **21** Those Hebrews who had previously been with the Philistines and had gone up with them to their camp went over to the Israelites who were with Saul and Jonathan. **22** When all the Israelites who had hidden in the hill country of Ephraim heard that the Philistines were on the run, they joined the battle in hot pursuit. **23** So on that day the Lord saved Israel, and the battle moved on beyond Beth Aven.