



LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of 3/10/2024

This week we explore the pain of broken trust and look at practical steps for healing. We look at how bitterness affects us, how to rebuild trust, and how we let God fight our battles. We learn valuable lessons from Absalom's betrayal of David in 2 Samuel and consider how God can help you through similar challenges. We look at how a church community needs to be marked by love, forgiveness, and trust.

After your group opens in prayer, please read the following passage, and discuss any questions or thoughts that came to mind after hearing/watching the sermon.

If helpful, please review the story of David and Absalom from these passages in 2 Samuel:

2 Samuel 13:1-29, 38-39; 2 Samuel 14:23-29; 2 Samuel 14:33; 2 Samuel 15:1-6, 10; 2 Samuel 15:13-15, 2 Samuel 18:1-9.

1. In the sermon, we discussed David's reluctance to confront Absalom. How can we healthily address conflict with those closest to us and within the church community?

Read Psalm 55:12-14

2. David expresses the pain of betrayal by his son Absalom in these verses. Have you ever experienced betrayal from someone close to you, whether a friend or family member? How did you navigate the emotions associated with that betrayal?

Read Psalm 55:16-19

3. The sermon mentions the temptation to "cry out to the people" or "plead your case" amid trials and betrayal rather than crying out to God. How can we resist this temptation to "control the narrative" and instead rely on God to fight our battles?

Read Ephesians 4:1-3

4. Paul urges believers to live lives worthy of their calling by demonstrating humility, gentleness, and patience. How do these qualities contribute to building trust and unity within the church community?
5. How can we actively pursue peace and unity within our church family, especially when faced with conflicts or disagreements? How does our commitment to these values reflect our identity as followers of Christ?

As you close, share any challenges, encouragements, and needs related to this week's message. Close by praying for our church to be a place where people can build deep, trusting relationships.