



## FACILITATOR'S GUIDE—YOUTH

*Year 3—The God Who Pursues Relationship: A Story of God's People*

*Module 4: God Leads His People*

*Lesson 3: The Story of King David—2 Samuel 5-8*

### ENCOUNTER 1—Community Discussion

Read 2 Samuel 5 together out loud as a group. Encourage each person to journal through the passage using these questions. After allowing sufficient time for reflection, invite the group to share their thoughts.

*How is this God's story?*

*How is this others' story?*

*How is this my story?*

*How is this the world's story?*

### ENCOUNTER 2—Community Discussion

(Read the biblical reflection included with this lesson. The questions are designed for your group to enter into a meaningful dialogue about the Word. The bulleted teaching points are taken from the reflection and correspond to the questions.)

#### **GOD'S STORY**

*David waited around a couple decades for God to fulfill His promise to make him king. How long would you last before beginning to grow angry or frustrated?*

- God will establish you into who He made you to be if you position your life under Him. This means actively seeking, trusting and being obedient to Him.

*What are the things that remind you that God is king?*

- Jesus is our king and He creates something new in us when we let Him reign over our lives. He can even claim “territory” inside of us that should have been given to Him in the past.

*Why do you think God blessed David, even though David made mistakes, took shortcuts and even sinned against God?*

- David allowed the ark to be moved on a cart, which was against God's specific commands (Exodus 25:12-15; Numbers 4:15). He also danced in the streets in worship, even though his wife Michal ridiculed him for it (2 Samuel 6:21-22).

#### **OUR STORY**

*Are you willing to give your best to God while knowing you are not perfect?*

- We can learn from David's worship in that it was passionate in public and in private. Likewise, ours is best when we're wholehearted whether in public or private.

*What do you sense God is calling you to do with your life?*

- God gifts every person uniquely, and His calling has power.
- You won't fully discover what God wants you to do with your life until you first fully rest in God and do nothing but enjoy him.

## OTHERS' STORY

*Who in your life can tell you things you need to hear but don't want anyone to tell you?*

- Real accountability grows in the environment of a relationship, is rooted in truth, watered in grace, embraces pruning, produces fruit and focuses on reproducing seeds.

*Who is someone in your life or church who really models the kind of spirit or wisdom that you'd like to imitate?*

## THE WORLD'S STORY

*When have feelings of brokenness overtaken you?*

- It's not necessarily hopeless to recognize you have a problem; however, it is hopeless when you don't have an alternative perspective on how to solve it.

*What do you think it looks like to bring wholeness into the world in its current state, even before Jesus returns to fix it forever?*

- It's not enough to be positive in a negative world, for that is your will against others. Eventually you'll be worn down and feel defeated. Only by having real life in you through Christ will you have what you need to face down a dead world and give it Who it needs.

## PRAYER

(Lead your group in corporate prayer.)

*Praise the LORD, my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.  
Praise the LORD, my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits—  
who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases,  
who redeems your life from the pit  
and crowns you with love and compassion,  
who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

*The LORD works righteousness  
and justice for all the oppressed.*

*He made known his ways to Moses,  
his deeds to the people of Israel:  
The LORD is compassionate and gracious,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
He will not always accuse,  
nor will he harbor his anger forever;  
he does not treat us as our sins deserve  
or repay us according to our iniquities.  
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him;  
as far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.*

*As a father has compassion on his children,  
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;  
for he knows how we are formed,  
he remembers that we are dust.  
The life of mortals is like grass,  
they flourish like a flower of the field;  
the wind blows over it and it is gone,  
and its place remembers it no more.  
But from everlasting to everlasting  
the LORD's love is with those who fear him,  
and his righteousness with their children's children—  
with those who keep his covenant  
and remember to obey his precepts.*

*The LORD has established his throne in heaven,  
and his kingdom rules over all.*

*Praise the LORD, you his angels,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding,  
who obey his word.  
Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts,  
you his servants who do his will.  
Praise the LORD, all his works  
everywhere in his dominion.*

*Praise the LORD, my soul.*

(Psalm 103)

## WEEKLY PRACTICE

(Read the weekly practice out loud, and challenge your group to practice *missio* beyond today.)

David's passion for God caused him to clutter his worship with good intentions. You may be doing the same and need something symbolic to help you recognize it. Use the physical clutter in your own life to consider what you're holding onto that may or may not be important. Ask some core questions to help you discern if it should be kept or thrown away:

- What memories does this item evoke, and are they memories I need to relive through it?
- Who am I afraid of hurting if I get rid of, and it would it really bug them or do I just think it would?
- How much will this be worth to me in ten years?

The items you get rid of may not be "bad" as much as they're simply "not necessary." As you declutter, look at the items you get rid of and ask some other questions:

- Just as this unnecessarily took up physical space, what do I let get into the space I'm trying to create with God?
- How does getting rid of this item remind me of something I should get rid of in my relationship with God?
- Is there a better way for God and I to nurture our relationship without all the things I grab onto that could clutter it up? How can I simplify?

## BECOMING MY STORY

(Encourage the group to spend time this week in God's Word, allowing it to penetrate their heart and life.)

*Psalm 89*

*Revelation 21*

Spend time this week reading and journaling through the above scriptures. In the context of 2 Samuel 5-8, consider the following questions:

*How is my private time with God consistent with my public time with God?*

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Consider other passages you might know related to 2 Samuel 5-8 and read them this week, journaling as you go.