



BelPres Church

Group Discussion Guide: Power Under Control

Connect in Community: Gather with your community group to discuss this week's sermon. If you missed church this week or want to hear it again, you can listen to the sermon online anytime before your group meets. Being in regular community with others helps us notice how Jesus forms disciples over time and how the Holy Spirit uses regular people as part of God's work.

Icebreaker Question: What does your perfect Sunday look like?

Opening Question: Looking back to last week's sermon and scripture where we talked about singing in the darkness... How has that conversation stuck with you? Have you had any additional insights into what is imprisoning you right now? Did you practice being bold in your own dark space or on behalf of someone else this past week?

Read this Week's Scripture: Open your bibles and read through this week's scripture passage together:

1 Samuel 24

Discuss the Scripture: After reading the scripture together, discuss the following:

- What do you find surprising about this passage? What does the scripture suggest about who God is or what matters to him?
- Does this passage prompt or challenge you in any specific ways? Does it invite you to be bold in a new or different way?

Discuss the Sermon: Reflecting on this week's sermon, discuss the following:

- When you hear the word boldness, what comes to mind? Do you tend to associate boldness more with standing up and fighting or with exercising restraint? Why?

- Consider these questions from the sermon:
 - Is the way I am using my power bringing me closer to God or further away?
 - Is it strengthening my relationships or hurting them?
 - Is it helping me become more like Jesus?
 - Is it about something bigger than myself, or mostly about what I want or fear?

Which question challenges you the most? Why?

Make an action plan for the week:

- Complete this sentence: "This week, I can practice biblical boldness and power under control by _____"
- How have you noticed the Holy Spirit prompting you during our discussion time today?

Close in prayer: Close with a few minutes together in your group sharing prayer requests and then praying together for each other. Take the challenging parts of your conversation to Jesus. Thank God for the time together, the conversation shared, the other people in the group, and for encouragement in the week ahead.